

THE Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

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CONTENTS.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS:	
How will it work?	729
Ecclesiastical Notes	729
Reorganisation of the Irish Church	730
The University Tests	730
Question	730
Disestablishment in Jamaica	731
Religious and Denominational News	731
Public Schools	734
CORRESPONDENCE:	
Voluntary and Endowed Churches	734
A New Test	735
The Poor Children of Deptford	735
Parliamentary Intelligence	735
University of London	737
The Alleged Abduction of a Jewess	738
Postscript	739
LEADING ARTICLES:	
Summary	740
The Imperial "Gift Horse"	740
The Ballot in Sight	741
Lyons versus Thomas	741
The National Servant of All Work	743
Foreign and Colonial Court, Official, and Personal News	743
The Growing Crops	744
Miscellaneous	744
LITERATURE:	
Juventus Mundi	745
Brief Notices	746
Educational Works	746
Magazines	747
Gleanings	748
Births, Marriages, and Deaths	748
Markets	748

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

OF course, it is too early as yet, and the requisite facts are too few, to form any solid judgment of what will be the effect of the Irish Church Act upon the temper and, through it, upon the condition of the Irish people. A week has hardly gone by since the measure received the Royal Assent. It is not at all certain that the first show of feeling in regard to this event, can be safely construed into an expression of the real and abiding sentiments of those who give utterance to them. The change may be, after all, but a passing change. The indignation of one party at the legal proscription of Protestant ascendancy, may be nothing more than a sudden blaze which, unless fed by fresh fuel, will speedily go out of itself; and the graceful self-restraint, reticence, and moderation of the other party, on finding themselves placed on a level of equality with their fellow-countrymen of all religious denominations, may, possibly enough, pass rapidly into noisy discontent, when it is found that concessions made to justice will not be made to the demands of ecclesiastical exclusiveness. Still, the first signs of the manner in which Mr. Gladstone's policy will be likely to operate in Ireland, are, on the whole, of a pleasing character. The Protestant Episcopalians are already beginning, probably for the first time in their experience, to take stock of themselves, to measure their resources and their capabilities, and to inquire what they can do for the support of the Church to which they are attached, instead of what can be done for it by the Imperial Legislature. The Roman Catholics, on the other hand, have caught sight of the fact that justice to them, even at the sacrifice of English and Scotch prejudices, may be done, and has been done by a Parliament in which they had little faith; and that from the Legislative Union which they have been wont to regard with great and growing distrust, fruits may be derived which the Irish people, as a nation, cannot fail of appreciating.

We trust that the members of the disestablished Church have been considerably sobered by the fate that has overtaken their much-valued institution. It must already be apparent to them that they cried out before they were hurt. They thought some great calamity was overhanging them. They roused themselves to the highest pitch of excitement in their attempt to ward it off. The blow has fallen upon them—the blow which they so much dreaded.

What, after all, is their position? They find themselves provided with church edifices, probably more than will suffice for their wants. They have one generation of clergy whose temporal maintenance has been secured to them by law. They will have (when all arrangements have been carried into effect by the Commissioners) at least 800,000*l.* as the nucleus of a sustentation fund; and with such assistance they will be called upon hereafter to do what the poorer but more numerous Catholic population of Ireland have always done—namely, provide means for their own religious instruction. There is really nothing very formidable in the prospect they have to face. A courageous heart is all that will be required of them, and, if we may judge from what is occurring, they will want neither the courage nor the energy called for by the circumstances of their case. They have had panic-stricken and, consequently, unwise advisers. They have been told in every rhetorical form which could tell upon their fears, that the ruin of their Church awaited the passing of the Bill. They now feel that they are left to depend upon themselves. They begin already to be conscious of new and nobler views, both of their own powers and of their responsibilities. We have not the least fear that they will fail to prove themselves equal to the occasion.

The first duty which the Protestant Episcopalians in Ireland have to perform is the constitution of a Church Body, to hold and dispose of property in the Church's name, to frame regulations for the discipline of its clergy and members, and to perform those ecclesiastical acts which it is thought necessary should be performed by a central governing authority. How far they will succeed in this difficult and delicate work, it would not be seemly for us, perhaps, to predict. The main danger of failure lies in the wide difference that exists, and always must exist, between the clerical and the lay character. Unless the representative assembly to which the work of framing a Church constitution shall be entrusted, be fairly composed of both elements in due proportion, there is reason to fear the want of harmonious action, and of general acquiescence in the conclusions at which the assembly may arrive. No doubt, it will be fitting that the bishops should take the first steps necessary to ascertain the prevailing wishes of the whole ecclesiastical community. But should they indicate any strong disposition to retain in the hands of the clerical body that authority it has heretofore derived from the law of the land, it seems not improbable that the laity who, after all, have the means in their possession, will sternly oppose any such decision. Our own belief is that the constitution of the Church Body can only be satisfactorily adjusted by equitable and disinterested conduct on both sides; and our hope is that, yielding to the force of circumstances, and intent upon the one great object they have before them, both parties, clerical and lay, will lay aside extreme pretensions.

Politically, the operation of the Act seems not unlikely to take the world by surprise. Protestantism is essentially identified with Liberalism—Catholicism more naturally affects Conservatism. In Ireland we have seen these relations reversed, but reversed by the force and pressure of external circumstances only. The Protestantism of Ireland, having no longer an exclusive position and privileges to main-

tain, standing upon its own merits, and seeking its objects by its own vital energies, will very speedily come to perceive that it has nearer affinities with what is politically free and independent, than with what is narrow and restricted. Protestantism in Ireland will naturally sympathise with, and receive sympathy from, Protestantism in England, and between the two there will be a spontaneous concurrence in such policy and measures as will extend to the utmost limits, liberty of thought, of speech, and of action. It will not be at all surprising, therefore, if, in a comparatively near future, the Irish Protestants become the bone and sinew of the Liberal party. But its strength, whatever it may be, will not be the strength given to it by law. It must be that of moral influence, or nothing. Who can tell whether that moral influence will not be urgently needed to check, and eventually to overcome, ecclesiastical doctrines utterly incompatible with civil freedom. Our conviction is that what is called "the right of private judgment" has yet a great mission to accomplish in Ireland, and our trust is that such a mission it will now fit itself to accomplish. Things have been put by the Irish Church Act into their natural relative position towards one another. Each ecclesiastical organisation will henceforth develop the force most appropriate to itself. Each will in turn be modified by the other. Peradventure, in the end, the result may be such a union of the better elements of all the existing systems, as will constitute Ireland the brightness and strength of the British empire.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

An attempt is being made—rather late it must be said—to disprove the weighty, but to some parties, unwelcome facts which were embodied in Mr. Henry Richard's speech upon Welsh landlords and Welsh tenants. A communication has appeared in the Tory daily journals from the agent of one of the landlords, in which it is stated upon evidence, that the tenant referred to was evicted not for his Non-conformity, but for the ill-management of his farm. Mr. Richard has made inquiries into this case, getting his statement morally substantiated. Whereupon the *Herald* of yesterday calls upon the hon. member for Merthyr Tydvil to withdraw all his accusations, and characterises all his charges as something equivalent to inventions. It is odd that, just at the time that this correspondence is made public, an article "On Toleration" appears in the *Cornhill Magazine*, the writer of which says:—"It is not my design to discourse upon political or religious intolerance; although, having lived much in the great Principality of Wales, heaven knows that of both I have seen more than enough. Frightful things in the way of dispossession and evictions—cruel pressure of orthodox landlords on Dissenting tenants not disposed to vote for Church-rates—are often done, bringing honest men and families to the dust of ruin." The writer adds this note:—

I ought to state that I wrote this passage some months ago—long before Mr. Richard brought the intolerance of Welsh landlords to the notice of the House of Commons. I see it stated in a Conservative journal that Welsh evictions are pure myths. I feel tolerably certain that if the writer had even lived in Wales, he would not have written anything so notoriously at variance with the truth. I wish that I could believe the story to be a fiction. My own experience teaches me that the landlord screw is put on very tightly, not merely with reference to votes at elections, but in respect also of votes at vestry meetings.

The *Cornhill* is a Church magazine. The testimony to Mr. Richard's accuracy is therefore all the more valuable. But to deny the existence of landlord intolerance in Wales, is to deny the existence of one

of the most patent of all public facts. We suppose that it will next be denied that Church-rates were ever compulsory in England or Wales, or that Welsh tenants are compelled to pay any rent whatever. Don't the Conservative landlords give their Dissenting tenants their farms free from all rent or taxes?

The Bishop of Salisbury is dead, and the Established Church has lost in him one of its ablest representatives and leaders. With Dr. Hamilton's ecclesiastical opinions we, of course, could have no sort of sympathy, but, as was expressed in this journal two or three years ago, it was a pleasure to find in the Church so outspoken, honest, and honourable a man. His creed was not, in our judgment, a correct one, but we also judge that what, in the highest sense is understood by the moral life of man, was, in him, of an order almost infinitely superior to that of the majority of his doctrinal opponents.

Dean Waddington also is dead, and the Rev. W. C. Lake has succeeded to the 3,000*l.* a year which is the income of the Deanery of Durham. We should have thought that a Government of the administrative capabilities of the present Government, would, before filling up this vacancy, have taken some steps to reduce the unjustifiable amount of salary enjoyed by the dean. Nobody pretends that any dean can honestly earn such a sum, and Mr. Lake, much as he has done, would we imagine, have been the last person to say that he has earned such a reward. The thing is a gross scandal, just one of those things that inevitably drag down the character of the Church with which such scandals are connected. We had enough at one time of the Bishops of Durham, and very few churches could thrive against bishoprics and deaneries together. Is it a result of this that in the county of Durham the Church numbers not one-third of the total worshipping population?

The Wesleyan Conference at Hull is still sitting. The Wesleyan Conferences sit a most prodigious time. However, they do their work, according to their rules, very thoroughly, although we should imagine that more modern arrangements would be of material assistance. With a considerable increase in the numbers of Wesleyan ministers it would be quite possible for whole days to be taken up in reading the lives of the departed, which might just as well be printed and circulated. The information given to the Conference has been enlarged since our last number. No fewer than eighty new chapels are reported to have been built during the last year, and some 260,000*l.* expended in chapel buildings, repairs, &c. If the anti-State Church feeling is not very strong, the anti-Papal feeling finds frequent expression. The President protests that the Conference must not be understood as advocating one or other side of political questions, but he also protests that every effort should be made to drive the Ritualists out of the Church. There is evidence, we think, that the Wesleyans as a body will not long keep in their present neutral position. Would the following have appeared in the *Watchman* years ago as it lately appeared?—

The nation is learning that the Protestantism of the Church of England is as little to be relied upon in Parliament through its bishops as in its Ritualistic churches. The inference which is widely drawn is one which we deplore. By removing the Popish leaven from its forms and offices, by abolishing patronage, and by bringing its clergy into direct relation with the mind and convictions of the parishioners, as such, it is our persuasion that the Church of England might be preserved for many years as a sort of complementary national Church, and as an excellent co-efficient with the Voluntary Churches of the country. We confess, for our own part, that we do not see how pure Voluntaryism could take place in Britain without violence being done to many "fair humanities," without problems being broken upon the wheel which call for wise and gentle solution, without much loss in many ways. But if Latitudinarianism and Ritualism are to divide the Established Church between them; if all that is most active in the National Establishment is to prove itself not national in any sense, but intensely exclusive and sectarian, if the Popish leaven is still to remain unmitigated, if the unhallowed system of patronage is still to be maintained, and, if in the House of Lords, the bishops, while powerless for any evangelical purpose, are to be allowed to palter with every principle proper to the Protestantism of England, then the Church is sealing and hastening her own doom, and is making any wise and truly Catholic compromise or settlement impossible. The discussions on the Irish Church Bill have, mainly through the action of the bishops and those who have been in concert with them, greatly strengthened the position of Voluntaryism in England. So the Establishment in England is fast being deserted by even her oldest friends.

Dr. Pusey, the more he looks at the Universities Tests Bill likes it the less, and is again surprised, to our surprise, at the position taken by the Wesleyan Conference. He reiterates, in a letter to the *Guardian*, his opinion that the Solicitor-General's Bill will allow most of the Heads of Colleges and the Fellows to be persons of any or of no religion,

while a large proportion might be unbelievers. He says:—

I was amazed, certainly, at what seemed to me the blindness of the Wesleyan Conference to their own interests—a blindness unaccountable, unless their sole anxiety was to place themselves, at whatever cost, upon a level with the Church of England, on the principle of her *ipse dixit*, not to be the mother of the living child, by her saying, "Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it." I have been glad to be informed by Wesleyans that the Wesleyan Conference did not in this respect represent the Wesleyan body. The religious Dissenters can know very little of Oxford, if they think that they would gain anything by the Solicitor-General's bill. Nor can I understand how any statesman, who has himself any definite belief, can suggest a plan in which the educating body of any college so composed might be Jews, Socinians, or (under whatever name) Deists, Atheists, Pantheists. I wish only what every Christian parent must wish, that those sent to the University may have a Christian education, which they cannot have if Socinians, Deists, and Atheists are to be admitted as educators in every college.

What would Dr. Pusey say, we wonder, if he were asked his opinion as to the religious character of the majority of the graduates and undergraduates now at Oxford? Has the present system made them religious?

Amongst the Acts passed during the present session of Parliament is now to be numbered the Act 32 & 33 Vict. cap. 40, the fruits of a Bill brought in by Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., to exempt from rating Sunday and ragged-schools. There are only four clauses to the measure. The preamble recites that whereas, until lately, buildings used as Sunday and ragged-schools for gratuitous education have enjoyed an exemption from poor and other rates, it is expedient that they should be exempted. The first clause then provides that from the 30th September next such schools may be exempted, by the local authorities who impose the rates, the Act of 3 & 4 Will. IV. cap. 80, still remaining in force. Then follows a definition of terms and a stipulation that the Act shall not extend to Ireland. Brief, but good!

REORGANISATION OF THE IRISH CHURCH.

Writing on Saturday, the *Times* Dublin correspondent says:—"The Church question in its new form as to the best plan for reconstructing the scattered materials of the Establishment is discussed with great earnestness. The Press teems with communications offering words of warning and advice. No definite course of action has as yet been resolved upon with respect even to preliminary arrangements. Two opposite theories are in conflict, the one clerical, the other lay, and until some means be found of reconciling them there will be no concerted movement. The Hon. and Rev. W. C. Plunkett, in a long letter to the *Daily Express*, deprecates the attempt which some rigid Churchmen of ability and influence are making to have a purely sacerdotal system of government established. He warmly advocates the revival of the ancient synods, but upon an enlarged basis, to admit the laity, and with extended powers to suit the altered circumstances in which the Church is now placed. At the private meeting of the clergy, convened by the Archbishop on Thursday, the division of opinion upon this subject was strongly marked. A resolution was proposed to the effect 'that the National Synod of the Church in existence according to the 100th Canon should be called into activity.' This would be to revive Convocation in its strictly clerical form, and would confer upon the assembly, if legally constituted, a formidable power. Such an assembly, however, could not be brought together unless by virtue of her Majesty's writ. The resolution was strongly opposed by a majority of the clergy present, and the result was that the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday next. On that day the bishops will meet the Lord Primate by invitation at the Bilton Hotel, and the subject will undergo mature consideration. Meantime the laity are not uninterested spectators of what is passing in clerical circles. A meeting of the Central Protestant Defence Association was held on Saturday, and a resolution came to requesting the archbishops to reassemble the Church Conference. The circulars issued to the delegates have elicited replies generally expressing approval of the proposal, while guarding against being understood to adopt the Conference as the future Church body. There is a strong feeling in favour of convening the Conference in order that its machinery may be turned to account in promoting harmonious action. It offers a ready field for the interchange of opinions and the cultivation of friendly feelings between the clergy and laity, although it could not be accepted as anything more than a provisional organisation."

At the meeting of Dublin clergy referred to above, the Dean of the Chapel Royal stated that the Bishop of Lichfield had told him he would give 500*l.* a year towards the future sustentation fund of the Irish Church. The dean added that the English bishops generally had resolved to appoint a special day for collections in their respective dioceses for the same object.

The *Record* has reason to believe that the rumour in circulation to the effect that Mr. A. J. Stephens, Q.C., has been instructed by the Irish archbishops and bishops to draw up a "Constitution" for the Free Church is, at all events, premature.

The Commissioners appointed under the Irish Church Act will hold their first meeting on the 14th inst.

The Rev. George Venables, in a letter to the

Dublin Evening Mail, proposes a plan for the re-endowment of the Irish benefices. He suggests that four or five persons should combine to effect an insurance on the life of some person of middle age, the sum assured to be vested as soon as realised in trustees, as the nucleus of an endowment for some parish. The present life-interests will hold out for some years, and by this scheme, without any gigantic effort, a sum would meanwhile be provided to take the place of the life-interests when expired.

The *Spectator* holds that the true policy for the new Church is to make the laity participate at once and on equal terms in all the most important deliberations, not merely administrative and financial, but also ritual, and even theological. A single chamber, in which the bishops, and clergy, and laity might all sit together, would be found far more really efficient for this purpose than the conventional constitution which makes the bishops into a separate deliberative assembly, and puts the clergy and laity into a single lower chamber to consult together, the votes, however, being taken by tribes, as it were, i. e., the laity delivering one vote and the inferior clergy another. What is, above everything, wanted is as complete as possible a sense of unity. Nothing will effect this so much as the presence of the bishop among the laity and clergy, where his leadership—if he is able to lead, and some, at least, of the Irish bishops are anyhow able enough to lead—will be infinitely more felt than in the retirement of that dignified seclusion called the Upper House. Moreover, the centralisation of the Church into a single visible body cannot but add to the spirit and the responsibility, as well as to the gravity of the debates, and make the various speakers feel the momentous character of their words and actions. In starting a Church of this kind everything should be postponed to *ifs*. With life all is possible; without life nothing is possible; and the danger in this case is undoubtedly a want of life.

THE UNIVERSITY TESTS QUESTION.

Mr. Thursfield, one of the resident tutors of Oxford University, examines in a letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette* the probable effect of the compromise suggested by the Earl of Carnarvon in the late debate on Sir J. D. Coleridge's bill. His lordship's scheme was—1. That one-half the fellowships should be handed over to the University, and that the holders of these University fellowships should be absolutely free from all restriction or test. 2. That the remaining fellowships should be retained by the colleges and held under the same restrictions as at present. Mr. Thursfield propounds two questions—Is the compromise one which the opponents of tests will accept? and, What would be the results of such a compromise in actual working?

First, will the compromise be accepted? It is probable that Nonconformists will not now be content with anything short of absolute equality. Such, they will say, they are entitled to, and they will not now consent to put up with less. It is almost needless to say that no opponent of tests will admit that the exclusive claim to academical endowments put forth by the Church of England is a valid one, and even if it were valid in law they are entitled to say that such a claim, being contrary to public policy and opposed to the whole spirit of modern educational legislation, may be disallowed by the sovereign authority which originally conferred it. If this plea of the opponents of tests be admitted—and it has been admitted and endorsed over and over again by large majorities in the House of Commons—it is idle to maintain tests on the ground of a security for the religious education of our youth. Nonconformists are ready and willing to take such security for themselves, and they may reasonably require members of the Church of England to do the same. Will it be maintained that the education of a Nonconformist may without danger be entrusted to an Atheist, while members of the Church of England must be taught only by those who have signed the Thirty-nine Articles and the Act of Uniformity? The opponents of tests would have each sect maintain its own conscience clause in its own way; it is the so-called property, and not the conscience, of the Church of England that is at stake: the latter it will still have in its own keeping; the former, although its grasp on it is not less tenacious, it will probably ere long be forced to relinquish. The fundamental objection to Lord Carnarvon's scheme is that it requires on the part of his opponents the surrender of the principle for which they have all along openly and avowedly contended.

But, secondly, if it were not that we cannot surrender the principle for which we have fought, we might well be content to accept the compromise which is now proposed. Its result, as may easily be foreseen, would simply be to establish side by side with the existing colleges, shorn of half their property and of far more than half their prestige, a new college equal in numbers, equal in property, and more than equal in ability and distinction to the whole of them taken together: a new college, untrammelled by ancient traditions, recruited from the *élite* of the university students, unencumbered with any undergraduates save those whom it chose to annex, and therefore unembarrassed with that great obstacle to university extension or reorganisation, the inevitable passman. If Lord Carnarvon were bent on striking a fatal blow at the existing college monopoly—already, it may be, on its last legs—and on effecting at once an organic change in the University system, he could scarcely propose a more effective means of securing his end than this. The new college, composed of not less than a hundred University fellows, elected by a competition freer than any which at present exists, could not fail to overshadow in a few years the existing foundations, to absorb into itself most of the ability of the University and a great proportion of its teaching power, so that before the end of the century the existing colleges would have vanished from the scene as completely as the forgotten halls of the middle ages. It is notorious at present that the demand for tuition in the Universities is greatly in excess of the supply, and it

may, therefore, be inferred with certainty that the great majority of the teachers would ultimately be found in the ranks of the University fellows. I know that it is not proposed to incorporate these fellows as a college, but the advantages of united action among them would so soon make themselves felt that for all practical purposes they would yield a power equal to that of the colleges; they might for convenience become incorporated, and I have therefore not scrupled to call them a college.

In a letter to the *Guardian* Dr. Pusey explains at some length the compromise which he is prepared to accept on the question of University tests. His proposal, which has come too late, is that what he describes as "the income at present wasted," that is, the endowments absorbed by non-resident Fellows, should be given up to the Dissenters for the establishment of new colleges, or "University fellowships." "If," he says, "Sir John Coleridge's bill should pass, Christian parents will have to think where and how to educate their sons. The Church of England would, after the example of the French Church, amid the infidelity of the University of France, have to provide seminaries for the education of its clergy."

DISESTABLISHMENT IN JAMAICA.

Mr. Charles Roundell, secretary of the late Jamaica Commission, in a letter to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, deals a heavy blow to the Church Establishment of Jamaica. He writes:—

The answer which more than once I received, when I inquired in Jamaica how the clergy fulfilled their duty, was, "They don't visit the people." I had, indeed, personal knowledge of the excellent character borne by several of the clergy, to whom the above remark would not apply; but yet, on the other hand, it was apparent that the official Church of the dominant race was not and could not be the Church of the people. The white man represents to the negro the idea of mastery; his Church represents a department of the Government; his form of religion is alien to the negro temperament.

We made, indeed, as it appears to me, two capital mistakes at emancipation. We did not provide (or rather the intended provision was neglected) for education. We did not provide for the training of a native ministry. Hence religion, being unaccompanied by education, and being taught by ministers of another race, laid no hold upon the negro. His religious impressions were as letters traced upon the sand. In withholding education from the semi-barbarous emancipated slaves the planter Legislature of Jamaica sinned its worst. To this default may be mainly attributed the social and economical evils which have since desolated the island.

But great as was the mistake of planting religion without education, equally great was the mistake of expecting the sober ritual, the full-blown paraphernalia of the English Establishment, to be suited to the needs of a negro colony. It must be remembered that we have to do with a race which time out of mind has been embroiled by slavery. It is a Southern race, eminently mercurial, impulsive, demonstrative. It is, moreover, a race given to revivals and religious orgies. In fact, the native Baptists—the connecting link between Obeah and Christianity—show in caricature what are the native tendencies of the negro religious mind.

For meeting the spiritual needs of such a people a voluntary Church would seem to be the best fitted. On the other hand, a voluntary Church under such circumstances, placed in juxtaposition with an Establishment, is at a disadvantage. If the Baptist clergy (the most political of the denominations) of Jamaica have exposed themselves to the charge of aggressiveness and bitterness, it is not too much to say that this is distinctly attributable to the ascendancy, the legal superiority, of the official Church. And this note of ascendancy of itself disposes of any claim of the Established Church to be an instrument of civilisation, a medium of conciliation between whites and blacks. No Englishman, who has not had personal experience, in a country where ascendancy prevails, of what ascendancy means, can form an adequate idea of its fundamental wickedness—how it stifles justice and saps the very foundations of social order and progress.

From all these considerations I deduce the following propositions:—

That the dedication of the eleventh part of the total taxation of the colony to the religious services of one-eleventh (and that the wealthiest) part of the population, is a flagrant injustice.

That a costly Church Establishment is out of harmony with a poverty-stricken colony.

That highly-paid bishops, archdeacons, and rectors are too good, and (as not being fitted) not good enough, for the work which they have to do in Jamaica.

That the ideal Church organisation for a colony circumstanced like Jamaica is a staff of native ministers and teachers, superintended by a few European superiors.

That public money (of the colony) will be best bestowed upon education, including, if need be, aid towards the training of ministers of religion.

That, consequently, the Church in Jamaica should, with due regard to vested interests, be disestablished and disendowed; and that the Legislative Council should concurrently make effective provision for popular education.

THE NEW METROPOLITAN OF CANADA.—On Sunday morning Dr. Oxenden was consecrated Bishop of Montreal in Westminster Abbey. The service was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishops of London, Ely, and Rochester.

THE PRAYER-BOOK.—According to the *John Bull*, which seems to be anything but pleased with the circumstance, the Ritual Commission will, in its report, recommend alterations in several of the vital rubrics in the Prayer-book, and the Athanasian Creed has had a narrow escape.

THE NEW IRISH CHURCH ACT has been printed. It is entitled, "An Act to put an end to the Establishment of the Church of Ireland, and to make provision in respect of the temporalities thereof, and in respect of the Royal College of Maynooth." There

are 72 sections, contained in thirty-six pages of Parliamentary printing.

A GREAT ECCLESIASTICAL TRIAL commenced recently in Chicago. The Rev. Mr. Cheney is being tried before an Episcopal board for alleged unauthorised omissions—mainly of the word "regenerate"—in the baptismal rites of the Church. Mr. Cheney is rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Chicago.

POSSIBLE EPISCOPAL RESIGNATIONS.—It is anticipated that the venerable Bishops of Winchester and Exeter will avail themselves of the New Bishops' Resignation Act, and surrender their sees. Rumour speaks of the probability of the Bishop of Oxford being translated to Winchester, Dean Stanley succeeding Dr. Wilberforce at Oxford. The name of Dr. Miller, of Greenwich, has been mentioned in connection with the Exeter bishopric.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIANS UNDER THE NEW SYSTEM.—It is estimated that the twelve per cent. bonus given to the Presbyterian body, as well as to the Episcopalian, when commutation takes place under the Church Act, will amount to an addition of 60,000*l.* to the value of the capitalised life estate in the *Regium Donum*. It is said that a special meeting of the General Assembly will immediately be held to make definitive arrangements for the organisation of an entirely new system of ecclesiastical finance.

THE NEW DEAN.—The Rev. W. C. Lake has been appointed to the Deanery of Durham, in succession to the late Dr. Waddington. Mr. Lake was a Vinerian Scholar, a first-class in classics, Latin Essayist in 1840, formerly tutor of Balliol, and Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford. Mr. Lake is now a preacher at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, and a Prebendary of Wells Cathedral. Mr. Lake was a distinguished and favourite pupil of Dr. Arnold, and was a member of the Duke of Newcastle's Education Commission.

A PLEASANT PROGNOSTICATION.—Messrs. Turbutt and Overend, the Conservative candidates for East Derbyshire at the last election, were on Thursday entertained at a banquet at Chesterfield. Mr. Turbutt said that so long as the unholy alliance between Popery, Radicalism, and Dissent, inaugurated by Mr. Gladstone, existed, they would not be satisfied with the destruction of the Irish Church, but would make an attack on our own Church, and on one thing after another, until there would not be an inch of the Constitution left, or any thing that rendered the country worth living for or dying for.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ALLEGED ALLIANCE WITH THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PRELATES.—Some one at Walsall recently forwarded to Mr. Gladstone an extract from a speech delivered at Wolverhampton by a Roman Catholic priest, wherein it was stated that Archbishop Manning was "a most intimate associate of the Premier, and a man in whom, both socially and religiously, Mr. Gladstone had the deepest faith"; and at the same time put a question to the right hon. gentleman. The following letter was received in reply:—"10, Downing-street, Whitehall, 19th July, 1869.—Sir,—Mr. Gladstone desires me to thank you for your letter of the 17th, and its enclosure. In reply to the question you put to him, Mr. Gladstone thinks he can do no better than refer you to his public declarations already made, that the first information conveyed to the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church, including Archbishop Manning, of the nature of the Irish Church Bill, was that conveyed by his speech in the House of Commons on the 1st of March, when the measure was introduced.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, ALGERNON WEST."

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY, who has been ill for a long time, died on Sunday at the Episcopal Palace in that city. Dr. Hamilton was appointed to that see by the Earl of Aberdeen in 1864. His diocese included the greater parts of the counties of Wilts and Dorset. The late Bishop was, perhaps, the highest Churchman of all the prelates who have sat upon the Episcopal Bench in England during the present century. His theology was cast in the dogmatic type of the leaders of the Tractarian movement, and his belief in the highest sacerdotal theory that could be reconciled with allegiance to the Anglican communion was publicly and prominently evinced in the last charge which he delivered a year or two ago to his clergy. It will be remembered that the delivery of that charge caused very great dissatisfaction and a strong remonstrance among the clergy of his diocese. The late Bishop took an active part in the proceedings of the Upper House of Convocation, and occasionally spoke also in the House of Lords; but he was not much of a politician, nor a very effective speaker. Though a learned theologian and a great reader, he wrote but little. Dr. Hamilton was a schoolfellow of Mr. Gladstone. It is thought that the Rev. Mr. Liddon, the celebrated preacher, may succeed to the vacant see.

CHURCH AND STATE ON THE CONTINENT.—A struggle between Church and State seems to be raging with more or less of earnestness just now throughout the whole of Europe. We ourselves have just come out of the heat of the strife concerning the Irish Church. Russian orthodoxy, if we may judge by a recent decree, is inclined to revise its traditions as to the status of the higher clergy. There is a fight going on just now between the Orthodox Church and the Catholics in Poland. The Danubian Principalities are involved in the question of the Bulgarian Church, or in the debates on religious matters which will, it is hoped, soon occupy the attention of the Servian Skuptschina. In Austria the arrest of Bishop Rudiger, of Linz, is in its way a token of contention between Church and State. In Italy the Garibaldini are still ready at the first opportunity to attack Rome; while the Ecclesiastics still resent the confiscation of their property by the

Government of Victor Emmanuel. In Spain the Minister of Finance has just brought forward a motion to deprive religious corporations of their wealth. In France the Radicals are becoming more powerful, and their attack on the Church recognised by the State is assuming therefore a more serious character. In Sweden a new law has just been passed by the Legislature giving increase of religious liberty. Finally, Germany is boiling with extraordinary excitement and alarm at the resolutions likely to be adopted by the coming Ecumenical Council, which will trespass on the rights of civil government. As if to give salt to this discussion between civil and religious rights, a little event has occurred in Berlin which may be worth nothing. A court of civil justice in the Prussian capital has condemned a certain Roman Catholic priest, named Fourrier, to a considerable fine, and, in default of payment, to four months' imprisonment, for having, while performing the marriage ceremony, boxed the ears of the bride. The justification of the priest was that the bride was in what is called an interesting situation. The magistrate, however, decreed that his ecclesiastical authority did not extend to the infliction of corporeal chastisement, and that he must make amends.—*Daily News*.

Religious and Denominational News.

THE METHODIST ASSEMBLIES.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

This Conference has been in session at Hull during the past week. At a meeting of the Sabbath Committee on Tuesday morning several resolutions were spoken to and passed by the committee, some of a formal character and others having reference to national affairs, and of the latter kind one referred to the opening of the British Museum and other public institutions on week-day evenings for the benefit of the working classes, and it was considered that such a measure would be very advantageous to the working men, and that they would extensively avail themselves of such privileges. A resolution against the sale of intoxicating drinks on the Lord's day was also passed. In the evening the general committee of the Theological Institutions met. This committee is composed of some of the leading laymen and ministers of the body. Not much of public interest transpired in the proceedings of the committee except the reading of the reports, to which reference will be made hereafter. The committee was addressed by the Revs. J. Bedford, Dr. Scott, J. Hargreaves, and others; and also by Mr. M'Arthur, Mr. Croxley, and others.

The Foreign Missionary Committee of Review met on Wednesday morning. The attendance at the meeting was very large, the body of the chapel was well filled, all the heads of departments were in their place on the Conference platform, and there was a good sprinkling of ladies in the gallery. The secretaries, the Revs. L. WISMAN and G. PERKS, read extracts from the minutes of the meetings of the Committee of Management, which had met in London during the year. The Rev. J. BEDFORD moved the first resolution:—

That this committee would express their heartfelt thanksgivings to the Great Head of the Church for the manifold successes and blessings which, through His grace, have attended the operations of the Wesleyan Methodist Society hitherto, and for its position and prospects at the present time, especially acknowledging with gratitude the large increase during the year in the number of church-members, the gradual development of native agency, and the openings for new and extended effort in various parts of the world.

Mr. Bedford was rejoiced to see the increasing development of native agency, and he had long been of opinion that it was of the utmost importance. Providence had presented them with new openings for their missions, and he hoped that their income would be sufficiently increased to enable them to avail themselves of these new and increasing opportunities. Alderman ATKINSON, of Hull, in seconding the resolution, observed that there had been two opinions as to religious success—the one prized statistics, the other spiritual influences and results. Both these views were satisfied by the various successes of their society during the year. Some of the openings which had been presented to them had been connected with the wane of Popery, as in Italy, Spain, and some parts of Germany. As to whether Popery was progressing in England there might be difference in opinion, but it would be their duty to oppose and resist Romanism, and especially at their different missionary meetings, such a course being perfectly consistent with the position of neutrality in party politics to which they had wisely agreed. The Rev. W. ARTHUR, Principal of Belfast College, moved the second resolution, calling for increased income. He had often wondered, as he looked at the extent of these missions and the number of their missionaries, how it was that they had so few martyrs. But now they had to speak of martyrs—Baker, Whiteley, and Hill, of Melbourne, had died the martyr's death, and he trusted that the blood of the martyrs would be the seed of the church. He believed that the emigrant converts of Irish Methodism had done more than any others for the successful resistance of Popery in the New World. He believed that Methodism had a great work before it as the antagonist of Romanism. Speaking of the foreign Wesleyan Conferences, Mr. Arthur observed that, if these Conferences had not been formed, the Missionary Society would have been bankrupt; but, through the exertions of Dr. Beecham, the affiliated Conferences had been formed, and the result was a far greater success in their work. The resolution was also spoken to by Mr. A. M'ARTHUR, of London, and Mr. HUALBY, of Liverpool. The latter gentle-

man expressed the hope that Mr. Arthur would soon return to the English work, and the wish was received with prolonged cheering. Several returned missionaries gave some account of their work. Mr. Fowler, of Wolverhampton, moved a resolution recognising the successful manner in which the Jubilee Fund had been conducted to a close, the total amount raised by arrangements for the Foreign Missionary Jubilee being 179,973*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* Mr. Fowler took the success of the Jubilee Fund as an illustration of the success of that voluntary principle about which some ecclesiastics in high places had such a strange mistrust. He gave all honour to the Free Church of Scotland, but it was not the greatest illustration of the voluntary principle. He believed Methodism was, and the Wesleyans could not have raised less than five millions during the last half-century for foreign missions alone. Dr. Osborn, in seconding the resolution, asked some questions, from the replies to which it appeared—1. That the Colonial authorities were making efforts to put down the Polynesian slave-trade. 2. That the Christian population amongst the Fingoes was exposed to considerable persecution on the part of their Pagan countrymen, in the hope of reintroducing the social immoralities which Christianity had checked, and partially destroyed. 3. That the Methodist missionaries who went into parts of China beyond the Treaty ports were always informed that they did it at their own risk; and that risk they were always ready to undertake.

On Thursday the Conference proper met at nine o'clock, but before that hour the body of the chapel was nearly filled with ministers, about 650 of whom are attending the Conference. After the devotional exercises of singing, reading the Scriptures, and prayers, the roll of the Legal Hundred was called over, and it was found that a sufficient number of them was present to constitute the legal Conference. The next business was to fill up the vacancies which had been caused either by death or retirement from active service for four years. There were six vacancies, four of which were filled up by nomination and two by seniority. The following ministers were elected into the Legal Hundred:—H. Williams, E. Toyn, Thomas Llewellyn, J. Parks, T. Nightingale, and J. W. McKay for the Irish Conference.

Next came the election of the President. This is also by ballot, but there is no nomination. The votes are collected amid a hum of suppressed excitement, and the counting of them is awaited with considerable interest. With the exception of some minor votes, the numbers were as follows:—Luke Wiseman, 14; Dr. James, 22; Thomas Vasey, 42; John Farrar, 87; Frederick J. Johnson, D.D., 120. For the Secretary of the Conference the votes were—Luke Wiseman, 14; Dr. James, 39; John Farrar, 203.

The President (the Rev. S. R. Hall) then declared Dr. Johnson to be the President, and John Farrar the Secretary of the Conference. Dr. Johnson came forward, and for a few moments knelt in silent prayer. The retiring President then shook hands with President Johnson, and said he gave him a hearty welcome to the office in the name of the Conference. He would first put into his hands the Bible out of which Mr. Wesley preached, and to the truths of which, as interpreted by the Wesleyan standards, he was sure that he (Dr. Johnson) would be faithful. He also gave into his hands the Conference seal, which might some time be of use in signing an important document. The retiring President said he had been sustained by the prayers of the people, and he was sure that the incoming President would be sustained by the prayers of the people, and by the prayers and confidence of his ministerial brethren. He wished the new President joy in his office, and prayed that God would bless him.

President Johnson, after some preliminary remarks, said that, having been elected by his brethren, he would pledge himself, by the help of God, to preserve, uphold, and extend the principles now officially entrusted to his keeping. He held it to be the health and honour of Methodism that it gathered its adherents from all classes, and that it was not pledged to any fixed political creed or partisanship. It would therefore be presumption in any man who should profess to speak on behalf of the Conference on any matters not immediately connected with Methodism. He would assure them that in nothing doubtful would he speak as their representative. There were some principles, however, which in their name he might always safely avow. One was, that come what might, they would not, in order to increase their numbers, consent to any change which would be likely to lessen the purity of the Church, or weaken its goodly fellowship. (Loud applause greeted this reference to the class-meeting.) He for one would not care to be connected with a large ungodly church. Again he might say they were resolved to continue plain, earnest, evangelical preachers of the Gospel—preachers, he said, not readers, not reciters, but proclaimers, publishers of truth. He knew that on some occasions it was not only allowable, but desirable, to read, and he knew that many good men made it their practice; but if ever it became common to use the manuscript, or even lengthy notes, in Methodist preaching, its glory would have departed. He need not say that he believed they were competent to discharge all ministerial duties, but they would not be ashamed still to be called "Methodist preachers." No dignity was higher than that of the preacher. Again, they were resolved to continue firm in their adherence to Scriptural Protestantism, united in Christ with all evangelical churches, but never consenting to any alliance with the "Man of Sin." Men might "level up" or "level down," but with those who advocated concurrent endowment or indiscriminate endowment, or who, though bound by oath to "drive away

damnable heresy," could, Judas-like, betray the truth for pieces of silver, they could have no sympathy. They would continue loyal to Christ, loyal to the Book, loyal to the House of Brunswick, loyal to Queen Victoria, and loyal to our martyrs and confessors. They would give up not only glebes and houses, but life itself, rather than betray the truth. Again, they were agreed, while spreading truth amongst the dense masses of large towns, not to neglect the villages. Methodism had now become a powerful thing in the world. In conclusion, he would beg for the prayers, and help, and forbearance of the Conference.

The Secretary acknowledged gratefully the honour of this, his fourteenth, election to that office.

At one o'clock on Thursday the doors of the Conference were thrown open to the public, and the Conference prayer-meeting began. The chapel was soon crowded. The devotional services were conducted by the newly-elected President, and several of the ministers present engaged in prayer.

At half-past five o'clock an open session of the Conference was held, and the chapel was inconveniently crowded. Irish Methodism was the principal subject of the evening, as was natural, considering the present state of Ireland. The President introduced the representatives of the Irish Conference to the audience. The Rev. JAMES TOBIAS presented the minutes of the Irish Conference to the President, and the Secretary of the English Conference read the address of the Irish Conference to the English Conference. The address was expressive of thankfulness that, in time of great political difficulty and strife, the Irish Wesleyans had been preserved in unity and peace. The Romanists were striving to force on a denominational system of education in Ireland to which the Irish Wesleyans were most decidedly opposed, for reasons peculiar to Ireland. They agreed with the letters that had been written on the subject of Irish education by the Rev. W. Arthur, Principal of the Belfast Wesleyan College. During the year the Irish Wesleyans had lost four hundred members by emigration. A committee was appointed to draw up a reply to the Irish address, and the Rev. JAMES TOBIAS delivered an address on Irish Wesleyan affairs. He had heard something the previous evening the like of which he longed to see in Ireland—one of their own ministers, T. B. Stephenson, preaching undisturbed by the dock side to a large and attentive congregation; and he could not help asking when would the day come when they should have similar opportunities in Ireland. One Irish gentleman had offered 400*l.* per annum for four years, if a like effort were made to raise the stipends of all the Wesleyan ministers in Ireland to a minimum of 100*l.* a year. Another gentleman had offered 70*l.* per annum for the support of each additional home missionary they would employ in Ireland, and some Wesleyan gentlemen in Belfast had offered 100*l.* a year for the support of each additional minister who could be employed in Belfast. They had not a sufficient number of candidates for the ministry to supply the demands for additional ministers in Ireland, and he hoped the English Conference would give them a supply of young ministers. They had long desired to see a union between the two Irish Wesleyan societies—viz., between the Conference which he represented and the Primitive Methodists of Ireland. The Primitive Methodists went to the Irish Episcopalian Church for baptism and the Lord's Supper, and did not hold service during church hours. He believed that if two-thirds of the Primitive Wesleyans were found favourable to the union, the two bodies would begin to negotiate the terms of the union. He hoped for good from the recent Act of Parliament in reference to the Irish Church, and he was never more disposed to say God bless the Queen than now for that act of justice to Ireland. It would do a great deal to weaken the bond between the priest and his flock. They could understand apparent injustice would work upon the minds of men, especially of uneducated men. In educational matters they saw a rock ahead in Ireland. In that country denominational education would strengthen the weakening power of Popery. He had no doubt the Romish hierarchy would do all in their power to secure a denominational education for Ireland.

The Ex-PRESIDENT referred to his visit to the Irish Conference, and spoke in the highest terms of the zeal and services of the Irish Methodist preachers. Their educational difficulties were great, and he bespoke for them the sympathy of the English Wesleyans.

President Johnson expressed his sympathy with the Irish Wesleyans and his high admiration, and he believed that when the terms of the proposed union came to be considered the English Conference would give their hearty approval. The Rev. CHARLES PREST also spoke very highly of the Irish Wesleyan ministers, and he hoped that some of the young English ministers would volunteer for the Irish work. The Rev. W. ARTHUR, of Belfast, said that though they needed more men for their Irish ministry, it must not be supposed that Irish Methodism had been unfruitful in the production of ministers, for in the colonies there were many ministers who were the fruits of Irish Methodism. He also affirmed the Irish Wesleyans in the colonies had rendered more service to Protestantism than had been rendered by their brother emigrants of the Irish Episcopalian Church. The Rev. L. PULSFORD, President of the French Conference, and Dr. RICE, Principal of the Normal Institution, Westminster, also addressed the Conference.

The Rev. J. C. SYMONS, of Victoria, Australia, gave an interesting account of Methodism in that colony. A few years ago they had only chapel accommodation for 2,000 persons, now they could

accommodate 72,000, and had 65,000 attending their churches. In the colony they had an advantage over the English Wesleyans—they had no State Church to hinder them; they had a fair field and no favour. In Victoria, in 1847, the proportion of Methodists was 4½ per cent., and in 1867 9½ per cent., showing a large increase in proportion to the population of the colony.

The Conference resumed its sittings on Friday morning. In moving a vote of thanks to the Rev. S. R. Hall for his presidential services during the year, the Rev. J. BADDEMAN observed that his labours had been uninterrupted; everywhere efficient, in the pulpit, committees, prayer-meetings; and whatever he had done as President he had done with a full conviction of duty. When Mr. Bedford was ill the late President found time to visit him in his sickness. The Rev. J. LOMAS, who seconded the resolution, said that all the interests of Methodism had been safe and honoured in Mr. Hall's hand. Dr. RICE said the President had performed special duties, and the special services required special recognition. The Ex-PRESIDENT, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that the past year seemed to him a little point of time, and how it had come and gone was one of the mysteries of his life. When he took the office he determined to do his duty. During his presidential year he had visited about 100 circuits, but though he had had extra service, he had not felt it laborious, and he attributed his present good condition of health to the blessing of God and his abstinence from stimulants. As to the political events of the year, he had not been self-willed, but, without putting his office into commission, he had sought the counsel of wise and good men. He felt thankful that the Wesleyan public had not responded to certain advertisements which had appeared in the newspapers. He found the labour of the presidency not so much in preaching as in the enormous number of letters he had to answer.

Ex-PRESIDENT HALL moved, and Dr. WADDY seconded, a vote of thanks to the conference secretary, the Rev. John Farrar. The services of the assistant secretaries were also suitably acknowledged, and these—Dr. James, H. W. Williams, and M. C. Osborn—were reappointed to the offices. The Revs. Luke Wiseman, W. T. Radcliffe, and R. N. Young were appointed Conference letter-writers.

The notices of motion were then called for, and were produced and read. After some discussion it was decided to hold the next Conference in Burslem.

In the Friday afternoon sitting of the Conference a number of miscellaneous affairs were gone through, but they were without interest for the general public. The suggestions and memorials from the districts were read. These suggestions and memorials are only so many requests to the Conference for new legislation, or for improvements in laws and usages now existing. One of the district memorials had reference to the presence of the registrar at Wesleyan marriages, and also complaining that marriages in Wesleyan chapels were made more expensive by the present arrangements. On this matter of marriage registration there is an increasing conviction of unfairness. Perhaps it is not too much to say that there is no subject in civil affairs with which the Wesleyans are more dissatisfied. Another memorial desired action to be taken on the question of the repeal of University tests; another was in form of a complaint of the conduct of one of her Majesty's inspectors of schools; another to the necessity for having a new selection of hymns for Sunday-schools; and another to the organisation of juvenile missionary associations.

The President announced that he had appointed the Rev. S. Coley to write the pastoral address to the societies; and the Rev. J. Lomas, Dr. Waddy, and W. W. Stamp were appointed to revise it before being presented to the Conference.

At six o'clock the doors of the chapel were opened, and the vast crowd, which had been for some time gathering, was admitted to the Conference love-feast, and in a few minutes every part of the building was closely crowded. The members of the Methodist Society only, with any persons who may have obtained a note from a minister authorising their admission, are allowed to be present. The service is commenced by the singing of a hymn and by prayer. After grace, small portions of cake and water are distributed, and then any one moved to do so relates his Christian experience. The power of a *vised eves* relation is always great, and therefore these love-feasts have always been popular and effective among the Methodists, especially of Yorkshire. On Friday night, among other speakers, were the ex-President, Pastor Pulsford, Revs. J. Tobias (Dublin), T. Chapman (Otley), Joseph Hargreaves (Sheffield), and Dr. James (Hull). The hearty singing of the vast congregation was most impressive.

On Saturday morning the names of ministers who had been on probation four years, and were recommended by their district meetings to the Conference as candidates for ordination, were read, and each case carefully considered. These young men have passed through examinations previous to their admission on trial, and have given proof during the past four years of their fitness for the Wesleyan Methodist ministry. At the district meetings in last May they were examined as to their continued adhesion to Methodist doctrine and discipline. On Saturday night they were again examined privately by the President. The rest of the session was occupied on the question, "What preachers are now received on trial?" There were ninety-five candidates, and eighty-nine were accepted. Some of these will be sent to the theological colleges, to be prepared for the mission or home appointments, others will be sent at once to circuits, and a number of them will be retained on a list of reserve to be sent by the

President to supply the place of any minister who may be unfitted by illness for his work.

Many of the Wesleyan laymen and ministers visiting Hull went down to Hornsea on Saturday afternoon; some for a bath, and many to attend the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of a new chapel. Mr. J. S. BUDGERT, of London, officiated at the stone-laying, and in the course of his speech referred to the loyalty of the Methodist body and to some of the other characteristics of Methodism. The Rev. Dr. JAMES (Chairman of the Hull District) made a long and able speech, in the course of which he referred to Romanism. He hoped the Methodists never would depart from the witness of a Protestant people against the errors and usurpations, the desperate corruptions and oppressions which made up Popery. Many among them once believed that the chief bulwark of Protestantism in Great Britain was the Church of this country. He wished he could believe that now. He had nothing to say about Church Establishments; that was one of the buried questions on occasions of that kind; but he thought they were bound as Englishmen, and as Protestants, and as Methodists, to do all they could to expose and drive away from the Church of the nation men who were doing the work of the nation's greatest enemy. He did not believe that the Roman Catholic priests in this country were doing so much to spread Popery as some of the clergy of the Church of England. He believed the Ritualistic movement was far more insidious and a far more dangerous movement than any direct movement.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

The thirteenth annual assembly of the United Methodist Free Churches opened its sittings on Wednesday morning in Brougham-street Chapel, Sunderland. For some days the connexional and other committees had been in session preparing business for the assembly—the principal being the examination of those young ministers who have completed their fourth probationary year, and were now candidates for the full ministry. There were twenty-four candidates, and out of that number twenty-two passed a most searching examination. Several preparatory and other religious services have also been held. On Wednesday morning, the Conference having been formally opened by singing and prayer, the election of President was proceeded with. The vote was as follows:—The Rev. J. Mather, 72; the Rev. J. Myers, 51. Several other members were silently voted for. Mr. Mather was therefore duly elected, and came forward amid much cheering to the presidential chair. He said it was a difficult task to follow so great and good a man as the ex-President (the Rev. M. Miller). The Rev. R. Bushell, of Sheffield, was elected connexional secretary.

On Wednesday evening a public tea-meeting was held at Dock-street Chapel in connection with the anniversary services of the chapel. Upwards of 1,000 sat down to tea. The meeting was presided over by Mr. A. Sharman, of Sheffield, and was addressed by the Revs. S. S. Withington, J. W. Worth, W. Reed (editor), J. Gutteridge, J. Myers (ex-secretary), A. Holladay, and W. Hubbard.

On Thursday the roll was called over, and several representatives from a distance presented their certificates, and took their seats in the house. Letters and communications were then read from the circuits and districts, many of which took a great deal of time in discussion, and they were respectively referred to the connexional, finance, and stationing committees, as the case might be, for consideration. At this stage of the proceedings the venerable Rev. J. Everett made his appearance in the house, which was the signal for great applause. After the cheering had subsided, the President said the assembly had passed a resolution that he (the Rev. J. Everett) should take his place upon the platform, and amid great cheering he made his way there. The remaining communications were then read. The Revs. W. Hubbard and E. Pearson were appointed to present an address to the churches. A communication from the Irish Mission was read; and it was moved that the minute of the connexional committee be confirmed—which was to the effect that the mission be abolished, as it had hitherto been fruitless.

A long debate ensued, which resulted in a resolution to withdraw from Ligonell and Carrickfergus, but to maintain a mission-station at Belfast, the Connexional Committee being requested to consult in the meantime, and report to the next assembly, on the propriety of opening a new mission-station in the Papist south of Ireland, rather than in the Protestant north.

On Friday the assembly sat with closed doors, considering questions of ministerial character, and this business also extended over part of Saturday, occupying the delegates till midnight, when the assembly was reopened, and the reading of the committee's minutes proceeded with. These were confirmed, with the exception of one relating to the Scarbro' circuit. The assembly adjourned soon after one o'clock, and enjoyed a trip to Tynemouth by steamer.

THE THEATRE SERVICES.

On Tuesday morning the ministers who have taken part in the London Theatre Services during the past twelve months were invited to breakfast by the Committee of Management at the Cannon-street Hotel. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided, being supported by Mr. S. Morley, M.P., and Mr. R. C. L. Bevan, &c.

Mr. SAWELL, by whose efforts as secretary the organisation which supports these services has chiefly been maintained, in giving the names of gentlemen from whom letters of apology had been received, mentioned with much satisfaction that Mr. Robert Hanbury had sent another donation of 100*l.* Last year a visit to one of the theatres had so much im-

pressed him that he offered to defray the whole expense of keeping that theatre open for the season, and had sent a cheque of 250*l.* for that purpose. The letters of the Rev. Newman Hall and of the Rev. W. G. Lewis suggested the only two topics on which there was any difference of opinion in the management of these services, and on these two subjects the opinion of the company was invited. Mr. Hall thought the audiences at the theatres might advantageously be invited to contribute to the expenses. Mr. Lewis urged that in the increasing difficulty of obtaining suitable ministerial help lay preachers should be invited to assist. The whole of the theatre services were now under the conduct of a single committee. Formerly the services in St. James's Hall and the Britannia Theatre were supported solely by Nonconformists, and the other theatre services by a mixed committee. Now this distinction is happily removed; but the committee, though they were glad to report that the working expenses had been very slightly increased by the amalgamation, were disappointed that their funds had not been more largely increased by it. The income for the past year was 1,870*l.*, and the expenditure something over 2,000*l.*, but they hoped that some other contributions would yet be received, and the money difficulty did not trouble them so much as the difficulty of obtaining clerical ministerial supplies for all the services in the eight theatres which the committee now engaged. This difficulty would force upon them the question of continuing the services in all these places, and it might be found desirable another season to change their ground a little. During the past season 208 services had been held, attended by 287,000 persons.

At the call of the Chairman the Rev. THAIN DAVIDSON described the afternoon services which he had organised with great success for some months past in the Agricultural Hall, Islington; Mr. GLIDDON reported the singular success of the services in the Britannia Theatre; and other gentlemen witnessed to the continued interest which was maintained in other theatres.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY added his own testimony to this effect, and he thought the advantage to the preachers themselves was not small. It induced them to cast off the formality, the "starch and buckram," which characterised their ordinary pulpit exercises, and taught them to speak to their congregations eye to eye and heart to heart. The simple, earnest, colloquial, pictorial style of preaching which all ministers adopted on the theatre stage arrested the attention and reached the consciences of the crowded audiences of costermongers and workmen to whom they preached. He desired to express the deep sense entertained by the committee of the value of the services rendered by clergymen and Nonconformist ministers. Thanks were due also to the committee and their energetic secretary for the admirable manner in which the business had been conducted. He had never been more deeply convinced of the importance of the undertaking, nor of the necessity which existed for bringing the masses within sound and reach of the Gospel. It was deplorable that what was most wanted to carry on the work efficiently was a supply of means of the very lowest kind—the money. So limited were the means at their disposal that they had not been able to preach the Gospel to more than 100,000 of the population of London. Wherever they had preached the people had been benefited, though even where conversions were not seen it was not to be supposed that there were no results. The social condition of the people was improved, and prejudices against Christian friends who sought their welfare were to a large extent broken down. Various means of doing good to the poorer classes of the metropolis were within their reach. He (Lord Shaftesbury) last week attended a meeting of ragged-school children who had promised to do their best to observe the Lord's day, and to abstain from all work upon that day. A couple of years ago some of the children were asked whether they would volunteer such a promise, and during the first twelve months 500 did so; during the second year 6,000 had, of their own accord, entered into such an engagement, and had held to it in the most minute and remarkable manner. And the utmost efforts they could make needed to be redoubled, for the mass of misery and crime in the metropolis constituted a volcano from which any day an eruption might take place which would overwhelm all our institutions in one common ruin. They had the one and only remedy in their hands, and he implored them to use it under the deepest sense of responsibility.

Mr. MORLEY would impress upon the meeting the necessity of improving the material condition of the poor of London, and urged the formation of committees of Christian men for the visitation of the poor in their homes. If Belgravia could be brought to Bethnal-green, and the rich—whose riches and luxury were increasing while the poor were growing poorer—could be made to understand the misery in which thousands of their fellow-citizens lived, they would not be satisfied to spend their wealth in show and self-indulgence, but would exert themselves for the relief of the wretched. It was a great matter for regret that the Church at the Reformation had allowed the whole business of care and relief of the poor to become a matter of mere heartless law, and it was equally matter for regret that the administrators of the Poor-law conceived it to be their first duty to keep down the rates. He would encourage the committee in maintaining these invaluable Theatre Services, and could not conceive how there should be any difficulty on the score of money. The wealthy Christians of London must feel it their duty to support such a plainly necessary and successful effort to bring the Gospel within hearing of thousands who never did and never would enter any regular place of worship.

A conversation ensued, chiefly on the desirability of employing lay preachers. The idea of asking the theatre audiences to pay any of the expenses was generally discouraged. Several of the clergy of the Established Church present, including the Rev. Aubrey Price, the Rev. T. Nolan, and others, begged that the restriction of the conduct of these services to accredited ministers might not be disturbed. They had had a difficulty in engaging in this work and coming upon the stage to preach at all; but the call was so urgent, and the opportunity afforded so valuable, that they could not withhold their help; but this question of lay agency would bring all their difficulty back again. They set the greatest store upon lay help, but unless the conduct of these services were confined to the regular ministry, there would be no guarantee against the introduction of wild, heterodox, and mischievous teaching. If, for instance, Plymouth-Brethrenism once got possession of the platform, they, the clergy, could have nothing more to do with the effort. They were confident that a sufficient number of regular ministers would easily be found to take the services. Mr. R. C. L. BEVAN thought laymen often better qualified to address such audiences as were gathered in the theatres than the regular clergy, who had so much of the "starch and buckram," about them which the noble earl in the chair had referred to. As to clerical profession being any guarantee for orthodoxy—why, the notion would be perfectly ludicrous, if, indeed, it were not so sad. The clergy of the Church of England were notoriously unsound, and there was plenty of heresy in the Nonconformist ministry too. Almost all the heresies that had ever existed had been originated by ecclesiastical personages.

Mr. MORLEY, though a thorough believer in lay agency himself, thought it undesirable to force on the question on a mixed committee, where deference must be paid to the views of all parties joining for a common work.

After a few closing words from the CHAIRMAN, the Rev. W. PENNEFATHER offered prayer, and the meeting separated.

There is some likelihood of the Rev. Thomas Binney taking up his residence in the North, near Newcastle. The rev. gentleman is a native of this northern town.

The Rev. George Blinkhorn, late of New College, London, having supplied the pulpit for a period of six months, has received an invitation to become the pastor of the Russell Town Congregational Church, Bristol; but, acting upon the advice of his friends, he has declined accepting it.

WARWICK, HANTS.—On Wednesday, July 21st, the Rev. George Burgess was recognised as pastor of the church assembling in High-street, in this town. In the afternoon a sermon was preached to a numerous congregation by the Rev. T. W. Aveling, of London. Tea was provided in the Corn Exchange, of which over 200 persons partook, and in the same place was held a public meeting in the evening. A goodly number of ministers from the neighbourhood assembled to express their sympathy and congratulations, and addresses were delivered in the course of the evening by M. Matthews, Esq., of London; the Revs. D. Davies, B.A., of Tharfield; W. Manchoe, of Hertford; D. Russell, of Edmonton; H. S. Toms, F.R.A.S., of Enfield; T. W. Aveling, S. J. Smith, B.A., of Enfield, and Edwin Corbold, of Royston.

HULL.—On the 19th inst., Latimer Congregational Church, Williamson-street, Holderness-road, Hull, was opened by an admirable sermon by the Rev. John Sydney Hall, of Scarborough. This is an exceedingly attractive and commodious iron temporary building, capable of seating 300 persons, and has been erected by Mr. C. Kent, of London, at a cost of 400*l.* This new Congregational church owes its erection to the liberality of Wm. Pexton, Esq., of Cottingham, formerly a resident in Hull, who contributed 800*l.* for the ground purchase, and also 100*l.* towards the building. In the evening of the above day a public meeting was held in the church; Thomas Stratten, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. G. T. Ooster stated the origin of the new sanctuary, and expressed the thanks of the committee to several friends, but especially and emphatically to Mr. Pexton. Appropriate addresses were also delivered by Revs. R. A. Redford, M.A., James Sibree, J. Parnaby, and W. Robinson, of Hull; T. Rain, of Cottingham; and T. Poole, of Hornsea. It is hoped and believed that under an earnest ministry a larger and more permanent structure will soon be needed, for which there is ground enough and to spare.

THE JOHN WILLIAMS.—Letters have recently been received from Sydney announcing the safe arrival of the new missionary ship at that port, and expressing very favourable opinions of the suitability of the vessel for the work for which it is designed. Captain Fowler writes as follows:—"Passed the Cape on the 21st January in a very heavy W.S.W. gale and sea. It was the heaviest gale I have been in for many years; but our little craft behaved beautifully, only one sea broke on board, but it did no damage further than filling the decks with water. She is a splendid sea-boat, and all I could wish her in light winds or heavy, and I have no doubt that she will prove to be all that is required in the islands." The Rev. J. P. Sunderland, of Sydney, writes:—"The arrival of the new missionary ship has given great satisfaction. I was the first on board to give our friends a hearty welcome. The ship seems just adapted for the work she has to do, and all who have seen her admire her proportions. May she long be spared to go to and fro as a messenger of peace!" The Rev. T. Powell writes as follows:—"Every one who has seen the

ship John Williams is enchanted with her. 'Just the thing!' exclaim those who understand our work. She has proved herself an admirable sea-boat, and will stand comparison with other ships in regard to speed. Captain Fowler is enthusiastic in his praise of both ship and crew, as well as of the officers under his command. He never had such a ship before—would not change places with the captain of the Galatea. As for the officers and crew, he never knew such before."

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CLAPTON.—The foundation-stone of the new chapel, Clapton Park, for the use of the Old Gravel-pit congregation, was laid on Thursday by Mr. S. Morley, M.P., in the presence of some thousand people, who had been admitted by tickets to places under a spacious awning. Amongst the ministers and gentlemen present were Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., Revs. T. Binney, Dr. Spence, Dr. Macfarlane, Dr. Unwin, Dr. Leask, S. M'All, J. Kennedy, T. Blandford, J. A. Pictou, M.A., J. Curwen, J. D. Kewer Williams, T. W. Aveling, W. Tyler, Thomas Jones, S. Thodey, J. Morgan, T. Penrose, George Wilkins; Messrs. W. Underhill, S. Underhill, Henry Child, T. Gardner, T. L. Devitt, W. Green, F. N. Johnson, Eusebius Smith, T. Curwen, James Carter, Pye-Smith, &c., &c. The Rev. T. W. Aveling gave out the first hymn; the Rev. S. M'All read Psalm xlviii., and part of Acts xi., and offered prayer; Dr. Spence then delivered an able address on "Protestant Evangelical Nonconformity." Mr. Morley next laid the stone, and expressed his hearty good-will in the undertaking. His father used to occupy a pew in the original Gravel-pit Chapel, and he himself had the happiness of being able to count the late Dr. John Pye-Smith as his intimate friend. He congratulated the present estimable pastor, Dr. Spence, upon the prosperity of the church, and wished for him and his friends an abundant blessing in connection with their new place of worship, which was likely to be greatly needed for the rapidly increasing neighbourhood. The Rev. T. Binney offered prayer, and the last hymn was announced by the Rev. W. Tyler, the benediction being pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Leask. There being no accommodation for tea at the old chapel, the strangers present were invited to the homes of the members of the church and congregation. The evening meeting was held in the chapel. It was a crowded assembly. As neither Mr. Morley nor Mr. Reed could be absent from the House of Commons, Dr. Spence took the chair; and after the devotional services explained the cause of the much-regretted absence of the late pastor, the Rev. John Davies, and of Dr. Raleigh. Mr. Davies had sent a letter excusing himself from being present on the ground of his unconquerable reluctance to take part in any public meeting, but expressing his full sympathy with the engagements of the day. Dr. Raleigh was absent through illness, which had necessitated a three months' absence from home. Dr. Spence went on to explain that the chapel in which they were then assembled was built in the year 1716, in the reign of George I. The first church originated in a division at St. Thomas's-square, on the death of Matthew Henry, on the question of inviting a successor. The first minister was the Rev. Daniel Mayo, and after him the Rev. George Smith. Sad to say, in process of time a faithful Gospel ceased to be preached, until at length the pulpit was occupied in succession by Dr. Priestley, Dr. Belsham, and Dr. Price. That change did not of course come in a day, and hence the importance of watching against the very first departure from the truth as it is in Jesus Christ. He did not refer to questions on which there might be fair scope for different opinions, but to the vitals of the Christian faith. In 1811 the old chapel on this spot was given up, and left tenanted, what was called the New Gravel-pit having been erected for the congregation. It was then that the present church, which had been formed at Homerton College in the year 1804, took possession of the building, having for their pastor Dr. John Pye-Smith, author of the "Scripture Testimony to the Messiah," who for forty years preached a full-orbed Gospel from the same pulpit that had been occupied by the Unitarians. The Rev. John Davies, who was for several years Dr. Smith's co-pastor, succeeded, and how worthily he occupied the position most of those present well knew. It had now fallen to his own lot, who, like Mr. Davies, had been a city minister for many years, to become the minister of the place; and after two years' pastorate God had so blessed his labours that the church had felt it necessary to take action in the matter of a new building sooner than they had intended, for he wished it to be distinctly understood that before he came there preparations had been made for the building of a new sanctuary. Mr. W. Underhill, the treasurer of the building fund, stated that the present chapel was built only upon lease, and whether St. Thomas's Hospital would renew it was problematical. It had, therefore, been resolved, some time ago, to originate a fund to erect a new place upon another and better site, around which there would shortly be from four to five thousand additional inhabitants. Money had been contributed most liberally, and a contract had now been entered into which involved the outlay of about 11,000*l.* The structure was to accommodate from 1,200 persons to 1,250 persons—about half as many more as the old chapel would seat. Towards the cost there had been contributed a month ago 7,800*l.*, and, in anticipation of that day, an effort had been made which had resulted in additional donations of nearly 900*l.* The rest of the evening was occupied with speeches by Dr. Macfarlane, of Clapham, the Rev. Thomas Jones, the Rev. J. Kennedy, and Mr. Simpson. The additional subscriptions received on Thursday amounted to 986*l.*

Public Schools.

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL.

The Lord Mayor, according to custom, attended in State on Friday morning at the City of London School, for the purpose of listening to the recitations and distributing the prizes to the successful students of the past year. His lordship was received by Alderman Hale, the president of the school, the Rev. E. A. Abbott, M.A., the head master, Mr. Cuthbertson, the second master, and other officials. The examiners presented highly satisfactory reports in reference to the general efficiency of the school, and a very long list was exhibited of former students who had gained high classical and mathematical honours at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, Mr. Abbott, the present head master, being one of the most conspicuous. The following were the principal prizes awarded:—

SCHOLARSHIPS.—Beaufoy Scholarship, William Garrett; David Salomons Scholarship, Hermann M. Kisch; Masterman Scholarship, John Mortimer Angus; Lambert Jones Scholarship, Edward Curling; St. Thomas' Medical Scholarship, Aurelius V. Maybury; Carpenter Scholarship, Percy H. E. Freund; David Salomons Foundation Scholarship, Henry Louis; Jews' Commemoration Scholarship, Edward S. Summers; Mortimer Exhibition, Walter Odling.

MEDALS, &c.—Dr. Conquest's gold medal, Hermann M. Kisch; Sir James Shaw's classical medal, &c., Edward Curling; Beaufoy's mathematical medal, &c., Hermann M. Kisch; Edkins memorial prize, Stanley Rogers; Mowlem prize for English, John Cox; Sir George Carroll's medal for French, Thomas R. H. M'Clatchie; Sir George Carroll's medal for German, Henry Louis; Mr. Alderman Hale's medal for arithmetic, John E. A. Steggall; Mr. Alderman Hale's medal for chemical science, Walter Odling; Mr. Deputy Lott's medal for writing, George Edward Wilkinson; Mr. E. B. Rigby's gold pen (commercial prize), William Wolfe Fletcher; Stewart memorial prize, Henry Richard Verry.

OTHER PRIZES.—Mr. Alderman Finnis's prizes for general proficiency and good conduct, Henry Richard Verry, John Mortimer Angus, Arthur Norton, Aurelius V. Maybury, James Vanner Early, Edward Pash, John Hunter Ross, Montague Watts, John Alexander Roberts, William Gaisford, David R. Bryce, Tom Henry Frampton, Arthur Collier, Alexander M'Morland; Mr. Phillip's Latin verse composition prize, Herbert H. Asquith, and John Cox (equal); Mr. Scott's Scriptural prize, Herbert H. Asquith; Dr. Mortimer's English prizes, Herbert H. Asquith, John Cox, David Thomson King, William Henry Ullman, Francis F. M. Stewart, William Ayton Gosling, Clement M. Bailhache, Cecil Bendall, Herbert Olney, William Percival, James M'Mullen Rigg, John Palmer, John Berry, and James Gibson; the John Carpenter Club English history prizes, Herbert H. Asquith and John Cox; Mr. James Innes' prizes for encouraging the study of political economy, Hermann M. Kisch, John Cox, and Charles Thomas Hobbs. Drawing prizes also were awarded to Edgar R. Simpson, George L. Gomme, William A. Gosling, John Mumford, Robert Stewart, Alfred Akers, Alfred E. Carey, Robert Buchanan, George H. Workman, John Mumford, David Wade, Arthur H. Brook, and Adam H. Mather; German prizes were awarded to John Cox, George S. Vinen, James E. Marchant, Brougham R. Rygate, and Eliot Pye Smith Reed.

At the end of the distribution of prizes the Lord Mayor made a short speech, in which he forcibly urged the necessity of keeping education and religion connected, and stated that no difficulty was found in carrying out that principle in the school, though it admitted members of all creeds.

Various votes of thanks were then adopted, and the Head-Master, in responding, said that if it had not been for the help of the scholarship founded by Mr. Alderman Salomons, he himself would never have been able to go up to Cambridge, and probably would never have held his present position. The masters of the school, we may add, came in for a due share of cheers, which showed how thoroughly their energy and devotion are appreciated by the boys committed to their charge. The proceedings of the day were closed by a dinner at the Albion Tavern.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL.

The distribution of prizes at University College School was made on Thursday under the presidency of Mr. Ingram Bywaters, a former pupil of the school, now Fellow and Tutor of Exeter College, Cambridge. After the distribution the CHAIRMAN spoke briefly, giving expression to his strong continued interest in the school, to whose masters, and especially to Mr. Key, the head-master, he always felt himself greatly indebted. He thought that the admirable principle of the school as an unsectarian establishment ought increasingly to commend it to the attention and confidence of all who were interested in the real progress of education. He congratulated the masters on the great successes which their pupils have lately obtained, both at Cambridge, in the senior wranglership of Mr. Hartog, and the high honours gained by Mr. Higgs; and also in the matriculation examination of the London University, when so large a proportion of the University school-boys passed in the first class of honours. The following list comprises the names of the chief recipients of prizes:—

GREEK.—Frankland, Keed, Gairdner, Sayers, Russell (second).

LATIN.—Frankland, Greenfield, Clothier, W. R. Oaler (second), Jones, Paice, Sonnenschein, Wilkins, Cave, Lazarus, Morley, Landels (second), Clayden, R. S. Oaler, S. A. Russell, Carter, E. H. Wigzell.

FRENCH.—Dick, E. C. Foa (second), Dick, J. W. Thompson, A. T. Henry, Greenfield, Ewen, Cave, A. L. Hart (second), B. C. L. Hunt, Fryer, Aykroyd, J. V.

Jones, Henriques, Bonomi, Growse, S. A. Russell, Cassal, C. J. Biale, Stainforth, E. Wigzell.

GERMAN.—E. H. Lazarus, J. J. Leverson, Tarbotton, H. W. Hill, Sonnenschein, Clothier, A. Jones, Wyatt.

HEBREW.—D'Avigdor.

ENGLISH.—J. W. Thompson, Tarbotton, Burnett, G. Durlacher (second), A. L. Hart, H. W. Hill, Ewen, J. F. Bernard, Lapworth (second), Aykroyd, Kitchin, Harrison, R. Barnett, Atkinson, Steere, E. Barnett, L. I. Benjamin, H. R. Dale, R. S. Oaler, Henriques, W. Randle, Carter, Williamson, Gabriel.

GRECIAN HISTORY.—Frankland, W. R. Oaler, Morley.

ROMAN HISTORY.—Frankland, G. H. Voelcker, Woodward, Aykroyd, E. James, Maitland, Gregory.

ENGLISH.—J. J. Leverson, Bruce, H. W. Hill, Ewen, Aykroyd, Bolingbroke, Burr, Hyam, Hibberdine, E. Barnett, Cleaver, H. R. Dale, R. S. Oaler.

GEOGRAPHY.—Tarbotton, Burnett, Morley (second), Dick, Paice, Walker, Ridley, F. H. Jones, R. Barnett, H. L. Roth (second), E. Barnett, Knowles, H. W. Dale, R. S. Oaler, Williamson (second).

ELEMENTARY ASTRONOMY.—Martin.

SOCIAL SCIENCE.—Keed.

MATHEMATICS.—Frankland, E. C. Foa, J. J. Leverson, B. J. Leverson (second), E. C. Foa, J. J. Leverson (second), E. P. James, C. H. Brown, Wyatt (second), A. Jones, Morley, A. L. Hart, Lapworth, W. R. Oaler (second), J. Z. Laurence, F. W. Hunt.

EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS.—J. W. Thompson, Keed, (Notes) Keed.

CHEMISTRY.—L. E. Pike, F. C. Frankland, (Notes) Keed, (Notes) D'Avigdor.

ARITHMETIC.—H. R. H. Martin, Gregory, Woodward, Fwen, Whitehead, Laurence, L. Lazarus, A. P. Durlacher (second), D. J. Davis, Wrather, Pegg, C. Mayor, F. H. Catten, A. D. Marks, W. F. Joy, Simmons, Bernard, Bonomi.

BOOK-KEEPING.—H. Benjamin, Greenfield (second), Wyatt.

WRITING.—A. T. Henry, Gabriel, H. C. Glover, F. Bywaters, Spurrier, Bake, Martin.

MAP-DRAWING.—F. W. Hunt, Hurrell (second).

DRAWING.—F. W. Hunt, C. G. Still, J. C. Lawrence, T. E. Pryce, W. R. Oaler, H. C. Glover, A. Jones, A. E. Brown, Cleaver, Stainforth, Randle, A. H. Gear, Hawell (model), A. H. Gear, Cave.

FENCING.—Clothier.

GYMNASTICS.—E. Benjamin, L. C. D. Meyer, G. L. Durlacher.

CRICKET.—W. B. Bishop.

Correspondence.

VOLUNTARY AND ENDOWED CHURCHES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I suppose it will be generally admitted that one of the benefits arising out of the debates on the Irish Church Bill has been the prominence which has been given to the question of the Voluntary principle. Never probably has the country heard so much on the subject, and it is clear, I think, that the occasion should be improved.

The chief opponents of the principle in the House of Lords have been the bench of bishops, of whom it may be said in brief that, with some exceptions, they have spoken as men who have no faith whatever in the power of the truth or in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Let it be understood that this is the position they assume, and that the question is to be argued, so far as they concerned, on the broad basis of facts. It is of no use to tell them that Christ is King, and, having all power in heaven and earth, He may be expected to continue His Church on the same principles on which He founded it. That may be all very well, say they, as a theory, but what of the facts? The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his speech in the Lords on the 22nd inst., in justification of the ugly things he said on a previous occasion respecting the voluntary principle, quoted the opinion of a Roman Catholic priest, who declared that he dared not tell his flock the truth lest they should stop the supplies; and he also quoted an extract from the recently published Life of Mr. Crabb Robinson, himself a Dissenter, to the effect that certain Hussite ministers in Bohemia, who once bred disturbances among the people because they were poor and lived on the peasants, became quiet and peaceable when they were taken into the pay of the State.

It might be enough to say that the Archbishop must surely feel that he has a bad case indeed when he is driven to support it by such flimsy arguments, and that in this case judgment goes by default. But this will not suffice. The Archbishop and those who think with him ought to be fairly met by a statement of the facts connected with the working of the Voluntary principle, and also by a statement of the failure and abuses of the opposite system. It is desirable to test the validity of the Voluntary principle by an appeal to facts, which could be done easily enough if the ministers of the Voluntary Churches throughout the land would send to the Liberation Society a fair and honest statement of their views, based on their own personal experience. Such a statement would probably surprise some even of the supporters of the Voluntary principle, many of whom, I think, are under the impression that one of the disadvantages of the system is the frequent changes which take place in the settlement of ministers. It will be found, I suspect, that the average duration of a minister's connection with his flock is equal to that of ministers of the Established Church, who are always ready for a change for the better.

There will doubtless be many of the ministers of our Voluntary Churches whose opinions will be adverse to the working of the system, but in the majority of cases

they will prove to be incompetent men, who have no more real ground of complaint than an inefficient cobbler or tailor would have at the falling off of his trade because he failed to fit his customers or supplied them with a bad article. There are some in our Voluntary Churches who are as unfit for their work as are many of the ministers of the Church of England, and for whom it would be well if they would exchange the pulpit for the more congenial and lucrative position of the counter.

In the debates on the Irish Church Bill, it is remarkable that so little reference was made to the Methodist body, as furnishing evidence of the effect of the Voluntary principle. The Free Church of Scotland was often mentioned, but it won't bear comparison with the Methodists. No honest man will attempt to gainsay the fact that Methodism has proved beyond question that the Voluntary principle is adapted even for an old country like England. It is true that very few of the ministers are wealthy men, but that is not of importance except to those who regard the ministry as a trade or profession; moreover, the ministry need not to be rich, as the people to whom they minister are not so generally; and here I am tempted parenthetically to remark that the Church of England, the only body which dares not to rely on the liberality or sense of justice of its adherents, is the Church which embraces the wealthiest, the most high-born, and in some respects the most influential part of the people. Is it wrong to put it thus, that the Church of England is the only pauper Church in England? When I say 'pauper Church,' I do not mean the 'poor man's Church,' but that it is supported as paupers are by the contributions of others, instead of supporting itself.

I must not, however, trespass too much on your space, and therefore only glance at the second topic to which I alluded, namely, the failures of the Endowed Church. I put this question to the advocates of endowed Churches—which is the greater evil, for a man to refrain from preaching the truth from fear of his congregation, or to be receiving pay for work which he cannot or does not perform? Now I venture to say that for one man of the first class, we could find three of the other. A few years ago I employed an agent to visit several of the London churches, to ascertain the number of attendants; and, so far as I can remember, the result was an average attendance of about twenty persons to each church; and I myself have often seen congregations of not more than fifty. It may perhaps be said that they apply only to London; but this is not the fact. The same state of things exists, but not to such a shameful extent, in other places, notably in Wales. May I be permitted to suggest that you should open your columns to receive information on this point? so that when the time arrives we may be furnished with such a mass of evidence as shall make even a bishop ashamed to revile the cause of Voluntaryism, and thus, indirectly at least, to do dishonour to the Great Head of the Church.

But lest it should be said that I have avoided that which in fact is the great point at issue, that is, the matter of the sermons preached by the endowed and unendowed ministers, I challenge the supporters of Establishments to send competent men to report on the sermons of the Established and non-established ministry, and I venture to say that they will find the substance of both to be remarkably alike. The unendowed minister will be found to be at least as faithful in the delivery of his message as his unendowed brother. In some cases there will be this difference, that the Established minister will be reading in a tame and perfunctory manner a sermon for which he has paid half-a-crown or less, whilst the other will be preaching one prepared to the best of his ability, small though that may be, from a careful and prayerful study of the Word of God.

May I add one word more, and that is, that in advocating the cause of voluntaryism we should not refer to the United States. The people there are giants, and wealth is so much more generally diffused than it is in England, that it is almost unfair to institute any comparison or draw inferences from their doings.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. MERRINGTON.

Eltville, Rheingau, July 27, 1869.

A NEW TEST.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Whilst Established Churches are trying to free themselves from superfluous tests, it seems strange that Nonconformists should be inventing new ones. Yet such is the fact.

At the Wesleyan Conference on Monday, a warm discussion took place on the resignation of a minister, under pressure, whose view of the ground of Sunday obligation was disapproved by the heads of the body. The resignation was finally accepted by Conference, which august assembly has now made the belief of the tightest theory on the Sunday question a *sine qua non* with Wesleyan ministers. To hold the Lord's-day theory of the Reformers, or of Dr. Hesse, Professor Plumtre, Dr. McLeod, and the majority of Congregational pastors, is henceforth a disqualification for the Wesleyan ministry.

The minister virtually ejected on this ground is well known to me. A more strict observer of the Lord's day, practically, I never knew. All spoke highly, at the Conference, of his personal piety, his ability, his attainments, his high sense of honour, and his accept-

ability. And yet, for believing that the Lord's day was of Christian obligation, and not Jewish, he was recommended to retire. As a lay teacher, I wonder what will be done with me for holding the same views? The new test has not yet been applied in the local courts of Methodism, as it has been in Conference. So far, with us laymen, the Jewish theory has not been made a thing of compulsory belief. But why should it not be? If there are no open questions for our pastors, why should we lesser lights be allowed so much freedom?

Anticipating a threadbare objection to such freedom, I would remark that we, who believe in the Lord's day, and not in the Jewish Sabbath, are not necessarily lax in either our teaching or our practice. An inference from a Christian principle, or a belief in Apostolic precept, is as obligatory on a Christian conscience as a positive command. If we are heretical, we are so with nine-tenths of Christendom.

Yours faithfully,

AN OLD WESLEYAN LOCAL PREACHER.

August 3, 1869.

THE POOR CHILDREN OF DEPTFORD.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Allow me through your valuable paper to make an appeal on behalf of the poor children of the day and Sunday schools held in the Railway Arches, High-street, Deptford. If we can collect sufficient funds, it is proposed during the present month to give a treat to about 300 poor children attending this school on Sundays and week days, either at Chislehurst Common or Bexley Heath. As the payment for conveyance and refreshments forms a very large item, the smallest contributions are most respectfully solicited, and will be thankfully received by Miss Jones, schoolmistress, Railway Arches, High-street, Deptford, S.E., or by yours, &c., JAMES NEWLING, Hon. Sec. Mercantile Land Company, 27, Aldgate, City, E.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday the order for the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill was discharged, on the motion of Lord SHAFTESBURY, the author of the bill, who stated that he should take the earliest opportunity of re-introducing it next session.

Earl DE GRAY stated that the Commons had agreed to their Lordships' amendments on the Endowed Schools Bill, with some verbal alterations to which he would now move that their Lordships accede. The motion was agreed to.

Earl DE GRAY moved the second reading of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill. He explained that it consolidated and strengthened existing enactments, empowered the Corporation of London to provide a market to which all foreign cattle from suspected countries would be sent, and removed the restriction on the removal of home-bred animals beyond the metropolitan limits. The Bishop of GLOUCESTER advocated an extension of the clauses respecting the treatment of animals *in transitu*, an opinion in which Lord ROMNEY concurred. The bill was read a second time.

The Bankruptcy Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER, on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury, moved the second reading of the Presentation to Benefices belonging to Roman Catholics Bill, the object of which is to repeal an old enactment limiting incumbents presented by Universities to sixty days' non-residence in a year, under penalty of forfeiture of their preferments, and to allow them, like other clergymen, three months' holiday. Lord CAMOYS, as a Roman Catholic patron, urged the propriety of abolishing altogether an invidious disqualification which did not apply to Jews or Dissenters, and with which both the Church and the Universities could very well dispense; but the Bishop of GLOUCESTER, in the absence of the Primate, refrained from giving any opinion on this point, and the bill was then read a second time.

A large number of measures having been advanced a stage, their Lordships adjourned at 6.35.

MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL.

On Friday this bill was read a second time, on the understanding that it would not be further pressed this session. Lord PENZANCE, who had charge of the bill, repudiated any sympathy with the fantastic and new-fangled doctrines of a certain school in regard to what was called the emancipation of women. Yet, if it was right that in a harmonious home the husband should support and protect the wife, there was no reason why, where harmony ceased and the home was broken up, the law should not step in and strip him of rights which had become a tyranny. As the bill stood, it was no doubt revolutionary; but he thought it would not be difficult to provide that the authority of the husband and the ordinary comity of goods should remain only as long as the parties lived together, and that when the home was broken up, or the husband did not perform his duties, the wife should be protected by the law. The general drift of the debate was in the same direction. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Cairns, and Lord Romilly admitted that the present state of the law was unsatisfactory, and that the demand for a reform contained in the preamble of the bill was just, but pointed out a variety of objections to the provisions intended to give effect to the principle. Lord SHAFTESBURY described the hardships which poor women with bad husbands suffered under the existing law; and the Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND waived a motion of which

he had given notice for the rejection of the bill, on the ground that he approved an amendment of the law, though opposed to this particular proposal.

The Evidence Amendment Bill and the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill were passed through Committee, the latter with amendments, giving authority to the Privy Council to enforce the proper treatment of animals *in transitu*.

The Presentation of Benefices belonging to Roman Catholics Bill passed through committee, an amendment moved by Lord CAMOYS, repealing the disability of Roman Catholic patrons, being negatived.

The Trades Unions (Protection of Funds) Bill was read a second time. Lord CAIRNS objected to it as unnecessary, and as tending to repeal the common law disability attaching to unions which operated in restraint of trade; but the Lord Chancellor urged that it was a temporary measure, pending a more comprehensive consideration of the subject.

The Civil Offices (Pensions) Bill, and a number of other measures, were forwarded a stage, and their Lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes before eight.

On Monday the Royal assent was given by commission to the Endowed Schools and other bills.

The Courts of Justice Salaries and Funds Bill was read a second time after some discussion.

The Trades Union (Protection of Funds) Bill passed through committee after a short discussion, in which Lord CAIRNS maintained that the act of last session sufficiently protected the unions from fraud. This view was contested by the Lord Chancellor, Lord MORLEY, and Lord LICHFIELD, while Lord PENZANCE supported the bill in consideration of its limited scope and duration.

The Dublin Freeman Commission excited a strenuous opposition, opened by Lord REDBURN, who moved that the order be discharged. This having been negatived by 33 to 32, Lord LURGAN proposed the second reading, urging that after the report of Mr. Justice Keogh the freemen could not decently be allowed to take part in another election without a searching inquiry. Lord BRANCHAMP protested against the bill as *ex post facto* legislation, and moved its rejection. He was supported by Lord CAIRNS, who urged that if Parliament once went beyond the limits of last year's act, these questions would be liable to excite party spirit. Lord KIMBERLEY and the Lord Chancellor, on the other hand, insisted that the bill was called for by the spirit of Mr. Justice Keogh's report, and pointed out that by its rejection the House would be protecting corrupt voters. The second reading was carried by the narrow majority of 2 (29 to 27). Their Lordships adjourned at half-past eight.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday Lord SANDON gave notice for next session of a bill to prevent the introduction of changes in the accustomed mode of conducting Divine worship in parish churches without the assent of parishioners and of the bishop of the diocese or the archbishop of the province.

Mr. DALRYMPLE gave notice for next session of a resolution to the effect that it is desirable to legislate for the proper reception, detention, and management of habitual drunkards.

Sir F. HENYAT asked what steps the Government are taking to suppress the recent outbreak of agrarian crime in certain districts of Ireland; but almost all that he extracted from Mr. C. FORSTER was the assurance which had previously been given in both Houses of Parliament that the law is being put in force with vigilance and energy, and that if exceptional legislation should be found necessary, the Government will not hesitate to propose it. At the same time, the right hon. gentleman expressed a pretty confident hope that if there is no excessive exercise of the rights of property, the means at present at the disposal of the Government will be found sufficient for the protection of life.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Mr. GILPIN, in moving the second reading of the Capital Punishment Abolition Bill, said he believed that public opinion was advancing by rapid strides in the direction which such a measure indicated. The strongest safeguard of life was its sanctity, and that sanctity was impaired by every execution. By such executions also you not only occasionally took away the lives of innocent persons, but shut out from repentance those who most confessedly required repentance and mercy. As to the hostile opinion of judges, there had been no proposal for an amelioration of the criminal law which had not been bigotedly opposed by judges as well as by bishops and archbishops, and he hesitated to take the opinion of men who, as Mr. Baron Deasy had admitted, were no better able to form an opinion on this subject than bystanders. He next referred to endeavours made by the late Mr. Ewart to procure the abolition of capital punishment, and, coming down to 1864, observed that in that year there was appointed a royal commission of inquiry on the subject, and that commission proposed to restrict the number of cases in which the penalty of death should be inflicted; but the Government had only carried out one of the recommendations of the commission, which was that executions should be performed within the prison walls. One great objection to the maintenance of capital punishment was that, unlike other punishments, when once inflicted no reparation could be made if the condemned persons were afterwards proved to have been innocent. In 1867-68 there were ninety-four committals for wilful murder and twenty-seven convictions, followed by seventeen commutations and ten executions. This uncertainty

in the application of the penalty deprived the punishment of all deterrent influence. Some years ago a woman was convicted of murdering her two children in a fit of uncontrollable jealousy after a quarrel with the man she lived with. She gave herself up, acknowledging her crime, and wrote some most touching letters to the man during her incarceration. On the morning of her execution she went to the gallows singing hymns, and she executed with an assurance on the part of the ordinary of Newgate, which he had a right to give in accordance with his sacred function, that, being duly repentant, she would be forgiven, and that the drop of the scaffold would be the opening to her of the gates of heaven. Another woman, a lady, was also charged with the murder of her two children after a quarrel with her husband. The cases were exactly similar; but the accused in the first case was poor, and in the second rich, and for the poor woman there existed not the means which the rich woman had of collecting evidence in support of the plea of insanity. In order to illustrate the uncertain way in which the law was carried out, he instanced the case of Samuel Wright, who, being guilty of a murder in Southwark under circumstances of provocation of an aggravated character, was executed, and the case of Samuel Hall, who, after committing a most atrocious murder, had his sentence commuted, a large amount of influence having been brought to bear on the Home Office.

Mr. BURNES thought it should be explained that the last case referred to was that of a murder by a husband of a faithless wife.

Mr. GRIFFIN then proceeded to cite several cases of murder in which, after conviction, reprieves had been allowed, and maintained that the certainty that a less punishment than death would in cases of murder be inflicted, would do more to prevent that crime than the maintenance of capital penalty in the statute-book. He also contended that a very strong argument against the existing law was afforded by the number of innocent persons convicted under it, and, in corroboration of his statement, he instanced, among other examples, the case of the Italian Poliziotti, saved from the gallows by the exertions of Mr. Negretti, who fully established the accused's innocence. As Mr. MILL had said that he would give up the whole case in favour of capital punishment if it could only be proved that juries were unwilling to convict in cases where the punishment was death, he now submitted that that point could be satisfactorily proved. In 1852 four men were tried for wilful murder at the Central Criminal Court, and though the judge charged for a verdict of guilty, the jury, objecting to have the four men hanged, brought in a verdict of manslaughter. He mentioned other instances of a similar nature, and then proceeded to refer to the evidence bearing upon this point adduced before the Royal Commission which had inquired into the subject. The Hon. George Denham had stated before that commission that capital punishment had led to the acquittal of many men who, if there had been any other punishment than death as the result of a trial for murder, would most certainly have been convicted. Mr. Serjeant Parry mentioned six or eight instances within his own knowledge in which men charged with murder had been acquitted purely on the ground that the punishment was capital. (Hear, hear.) Earl Russell had stated in a recent work that he had come to the conclusion that nothing would be lost to justice and the preservation of innocent life if the punishment of death were altogether abolished. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman next referred to eminent American authorities, in order to show that since the abolition of the death penalty in several of the American States, conviction for murder was far more certain and that life was not considered less secure than before. What he wanted to do was to wipe out from this country the dreadful risk and responsibility of shedding innocent blood. He wanted to make convictions more certain, and to relieve the Home Secretary from the perpetual misery of having exertions made to save every criminal.

Mr. R. FOWLER, in seconding the motion, submitted that the most important thing for consideration was to ensure the certainty of conviction. They now lived in an age when human life was more regarded, owing to the long continuance of peace, than it was in the days of Lord Ellenborough, and every one must feel that the relaxation of the law had worked well. He called attention to extracts from the blue-book of the Royal Commission on Capital Punishment, showing that juries were more willing to convict when capital punishment did not result from their verdict. Uncertainty respecting the operation of the law was a great inducement to crime, and the result of witnessing executions was not to deter from the commission of capital offences. If the Governor of the Bank of England were present he would ask him if he should wish to return to the old law for the punishment of forgery. He could appeal in the same way to any one connected with banking. Next he would call attention to the action of the Home Office, and submitted it was objectionable that human life should hang upon the judgment of one man, however able he might be. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. J. D. LEWIS, who, in a very promising maiden speech, moved the rejection of the bill, directly traversed the assertion that the existence of the penalty of death rendered juries unwilling to convict prisoners whose guilt was clearly proved; and maintained that the experience of foreign countries in which capital punishment had been abolished had not been such as to encourage us to follow their example. He asserted that it would be found utterly impossible to maintain a system of imprisonment for life. After men had been confined for some years, philanthropy would step in, and we

should be offended by the sight of men who had committed the most atrocious murders liberated from custody and walking about the streets rehabilitated and reformed.

Mr. Serjeant SIMON supported the second reading of the bill, which was opposed by Mr. SCOURFIELD and Mr. HIBBERT. The latter suggested that the Government should carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission by dividing the crime of murder into two categories, and reserving death for murders committed with *malice prepenas*.

The HOME SECRETARY opposed the bill, believing capital punishment to be a powerful deterrent of crime, for which no substitute could be found. Imprisonment for life was impracticable, since it endangered the reason of the captive, and prison discipline could not be maintained when all hope was eliminated. At the same time the law was in an extremely unsatisfactory state. In the last six years, not including the present, there had been passed no less than 155 sentences of death, of which only 82 had been carried out; and of the remainder 23 were cases of infanticide. In the majority of cases the sentence was one of penal servitude for life, which was rarely, if ever, carried out. One case was penal servitude for 15 years, another for 10 years, another for 1 year; 4 were pardoned, 1 became a lunatic after sentence was passed, and 1 committed suicide. It was impossible to justify a state of the law under which it was not simply in the power of the Secretary of State, but an absolute duty, to remit sentences which had been solemnly passed by the judges. After every assize there were cases of this kind. In some cases judges hastened to inform the Home Secretary that, although according to the definition of the law the jury had rightly brought in a verdict of guilty, and sentence of death had been pronounced, sentence ought not to be carried into execution. In other cases the judge who had passed sentence of death himself disagreed with the verdict of the jury. Then there was a third class of cases, where evidence was adduced after a conviction; and this was the weakest point of our present judicial system, and one which deserved the most serious attention of the Legislature. In the case of the poorer class of prisoners, they were unable to obtain legal assistance, and to bring forward facts which might tell in their favour, and those facts were not brought forward until the conscience of the neighbourhood was roused by the sentence of death. He hoped legislation might do something to amend the law; but the recommendation of the Royal Commission could not be very closely followed.

Mr. HADFIELD supported the bill on the ground that the crime of murder had not decreased under the present harsh state of the law. He objected to the Home Office being able to overrule the law in matters of capital punishment. Had the old blood-thirsty system of disembowelling and quartering been still in force, not a single Fenian would have been convicted in Ireland.

Mr. HENLEY said that no person could have held stronger opinions in favour of capital punishment than he had done when a young man, but of late years his opinions had undergone a change, because having carefully and anxiously watched the result of the operation of the present law, they could no longer resist the logic of facts. Throughout a long course of years he had been unable to find that there had been an increase in those crimes with respect to which capital punishment had been remitted over that of murder, with respect to which it had been retained. Undoubtedly, the convictions for the crime of rape had increased, but that was owing to the circumstances of an alteration in the law with respect to the evidence necessary to obtain a conviction for that crime. He found that for every three persons accused of murder only one was convicted, whereas for every three persons accused of other crimes two were convicted. Under these circumstances, he thought the time had arrived when capital punishment should be got rid of altogether.

Mr. M. TONKINS thanked the right hon. gentleman for the observations he had made, and congratulated the minority upon having obtained a convert to their views of so much experience as the right hon. gentleman.

The House then divided, when the numbers were:—

Ayes	..	..	..	..	..	58
Noes	..	..	..	..	..	118

Majority against the second reading—60

The bill was therefore lost.

The rest of the sitting was occupied with a renewal of the controversy over the Scotch Game Laws which has raged at intervals throughout the session. Mr. McLagan's bill was withdrawn some weeks back, and Mr. Loch's and Lord Elcho's bills now appeared on the paper. The first was withdrawn after Mr. LOCH had explained the motives on which he had acted, and the Lord Advocate, on the part of the Government, had promised to consider the whole subject with a view to legislation next session. Lord Elcho's bill stood over until another day.

The following bills were withdrawn:—Game Laws (Scotland) (No. 2) Bill, Sunday Trading Bill, the Parochial Schoolmasters (Scotland) Bill, the Admiralty District Registries Bill.

The House rose at six o'clock.

THE CORONATION OATH.

On Thursday the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in answer to Mr. WHITE, stated that the Irish Church Act would not make it necessary for Parliament to legislate in regard to the Coronation Oath. The Privy Council had ample power to change the oath; and as it had adapted the form to the union of the two Churches,

so it could make the alterations necessary after the dissolution of that union.

Mr. CHARLEY said he had believed that the Coronation Oath was an insuperable barrier to the policy of the Prime Minister in respect to the Irish Church. He was not ashamed to have held that opinion in common with Lord Derby and Lord Redesdale. The consciences of Irish Protestants had received a great shock by the fact of the Royal assent having been given to the Irish Church Bill. There could be no doubt that in the next Parliament, if not in this, an attack would be made on the Church of England, and therefore the members of that Church ought to know on what they had to rely. In the case of the Irish Church the Coronation Oath and the House of Lords had proved broken reeds, and bruised the hands which had leant upon them. He therefore wished to ask the Attorney-General whether the Government were willing to introduce a short bill to determine the true meaning of the Coronation Oath.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL hoped the hon. member would not suppose him guilty of any disrespect if he declined to enter into a discussion of the Coronation Oath. If there was any subject which had been thoroughly discussed and expounded in discussion it was the Coronation Oath. (Hear, hear.) It had been discussed many times, both in that and the other House of Parliament. He believed that the result of the discussion to which he referred was to leave a very clear impression on the minds of most persons that the Coronation Oath bound the sovereign in an executive and not in a legislative capacity. It bound the sovereign to maintain the laws till they were altered by the three estates of the realm; but it did not bind her to withhold her assent from bills sent to her by the two other estates of the realm. (Hear, hear.) It was not the intention of the Government to introduce any bill to determine the true meaning of the Coronation Oath. (Hear, hear.)

DIPLOMATIC EXTRAVAGANCE.

After some conversation about the allowances to military officers in Japan, the House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service estimates. Mr. RYLANDS made a vigorous attack on diplomatic expenditure. He complained that the recommendations of the select committee which sat some years ago on the subject, and which would have secured a saving of 50,000*l.* a year, had been disregarded. Lord Russell, himself a member of the Committee, having when at the Foreign Office added very considerably to the current charges instead of diminishing them. The diplomatic salaries paid out of the Consolidated Fund in 1850 amounted to 140,000*l.*, and their estimated cost for the year 1869 was 156,538*l.*, showing an increase of 15,538*l.* The charge for consular establishments abroad in 1850 was 148,690*l.*; whereas the estimate for 1869 for general services was 166,798*l.*, which, together with a sum of 94,653*l.* for China, Japan, and Siam, made a total of 261,451*l.*, thus showing an increase of 112,761*l.* Adding to that the increase of 15,538*l.* on the diplomatic salaries, they had a total increase since 1850 of 128,297*l.* The extraordinary expenses of ministers at foreign Courts, which in 1851 amounted to 16,000*l.*, gradually crept up to 40,000*l.* in 1858, and in 1868 they remained at 40,000*l.* He suggested that the diplomatic system was capable of great reduction, and instanced the special missions of Lord Ashburton to the United States, Lord Elgin to China, Mr. Elliott to Greece, and Mr. Cobden's services in Paris in negotiating the commercial treaty, as examples which deserved to be followed. He moved the reduction of the vote by 10,000*l.* Mr. Neville-Grenville, Mr. Kinnaird, Colonel Sykes, and Mr. Muntz also inveighed against diplomatic extravagance.

Sir H. BULWER, who had meanwhile entered the House, vindicated the service, with which he has been associated, in an eloquent speech. In reference to some remarks which Mr. Rylands had made as to the expenses of the embassy at Constantinople, he explained that the Crimean war led to a general rise of prices in that quarter. He had himself been instrumental in introducing examinations for diplomatic offices, and the system of reports by secretaries of legation on the condition of the countries in which they resided. Compared with that of France, our diplomatic service was not extravagant in cost, and French ambassadors and ministers had offices of high political distinction always open to them. He could not see how any great economy would be effected by turning ambassadors into political agents, and therefore it was as well, perhaps, to preserve the prestige which attached to the former office. One of the most illustrious and eminent of living sovereigns, who took a very active part in the affairs of his country, said to him one day, "My political agents are more trouble than all my ambassadors put together." While admitting, as an old diplomatic reformer, that many reductions were possible, Sir Henry indicated numerous political and social considerations which rendered it necessary to treat the diplomatic service on a liberal footing. Its utility must be measured by its silent services on behalf of peace.

Mr. OTWAY also acknowledged that many items were capable of reduction and even of suppression, and promised if the motion were not pressed, that the Foreign Office would carefully go through the whole service with a view to a reduction in next year's estimates.

On a division there was a tie—sixty-six on each side—but the CHAIRMAN, Mr. Dodson, gave his casting vote for the noes, and the motion for reduction was lost. The vote was then agreed to as proposed, with the exception of 300*l.* for the British chaplain at Paris, which was struck out.

On the last vote, 35,427*l.* for miscellaneous services, Mr. FAWCETT objected to the item of 3,374*l.* 14*s.*, the cost of presents and gratuities made

by the Duke of Edinburgh in Australia, and to £87, for the cost of conveying Prince Christian and the Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz from Dover to Calais. It was explained by Mr. AYRTON and Mr. SOLATER-BORTH that the Duke's mission was of a public character, and that these presents were made not on personal but public grounds. As to the second item, Mr. AYRTON said it was usual to pay these little courtesies to distinguished strangers visiting this country on business.

On the consideration of the amendments to the Telegraph Bill, Mr. R. GURNEY obtained the insertion of a clause providing that the Post Office, like the telegraph companies, shall be compelled to produce telegrams in any court of law. A counter proposal by Mr. M'CULLAGH TORRENS, that the Post Office shall destroy the original and transcript of every message after delivery, was opposed by Sir ROUNDELL PALMER and the POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and negatived without a division. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Several other bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at half-past three o'clock.

SUPPLY.

On Friday the House sat at two o'clock, and finished the Supply votes.

In the course of a brief discussion upon the Post Office votes, the Marquis of HARTINGTON informed Mr. Cavendish Bentinck that he intended at the earliest opportunity to enter into communication with the French Government, with a view to the acceleration of the Italian mails, and assured Mr. Bazley that he had not lost sight of the question of reducing the rate of postage between this country and America. He had already given much consideration to the subject, but it was surrounded with so many difficulties that he did not expect to be able to make any communication to the Government of the United States for some time.

A set of supplementary votes, amounting in the whole to 191,000*l.*, did not escape the jealous scrutiny of Colonel SYKES; but Mr. AYRTON was able to give such good reasons for their presentation that they were agreed to without any opposition, and at ten minutes past three o'clock the work of the Committee of Supply was completed.

Mr. BRUCE declined, in reply to Mr. V. Harcourt, absolutely to pledge the Government to bring in a bill next session for reforming the Parliamentary and Municipal Registration.

FORTIFICATIONS.

The Committee on the Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill, which stood next, was preceded by the usual severe criticisms of the whole scheme, and lamentations over the enormous waste of money. Mr. P. TAYLOR expressed his wonder at finding a Government pledged to economy proposing such a bill, and Sir W. LAWSON and Mr. BAZLEY took the same line, preferring that the money should be thrown into the sea. Mr. CARDWELL explained that the money now asked from the House was needed to complete the works in progress, which had been considerably circumscribed, and Mr. MUNTZ and Mr. T. COLLINS vigorously condemned the fortifications, but agreed that it would be impossible to leave those unfinished which had been begun. An amendment by Mr. TAYLOR to commit the bill this day month was defeated on a division by 100 to 82.

In Committee, Captain BEAUMONT moved to strike off the sum to be provided, 225,000*l.*, which he calculated would be saved by completing the Horse Sand and Norman's Land Forts at Spithead with one tier of guns instead of two. Mr. CARDWELL vindicated the original scheme, but the Government only escaped defeat by the narrow majority of nine—73 voting with Captain Beaumont, and 82 against him.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES.

At the evening sitting, Mr. NEWDEGATE moved for a return of the number of deeds or instruments enrolled in Chancery during the last three years, under the Roman Catholic Charities Acts, with the object, as he explained, of showing how enormously and rapidly the property held by Roman Catholic communities, in defiance of the Mortmain Act, had increased of late years. The Roman Catholics, he contended, evaded the conditions under which all other religious communities acquired property, and this all experience showed to be dangerous to the national welfare. Mr. BRUCE objected to the return, because in the first place it would cause great inconvenience and delay in the Rolls Office; and, secondly, because the Roman Catholics ought not to be subject to special inquiry. Looking to the hitherto neglected condition of the Roman Catholic population in England, he was inclined to think that all impartial-minded men should rejoice at the increase of endowments, which might lead to an improvement in their condition. Mr. HENLEY, on the other hand, remembering the voluminous information which had been laid before the House weekly as to the charities of all other denominations, saw no reason why the belongings of the Roman Catholics should be excepted from the same scrutiny. Mr. M'LAREN and Mr. SINGLAI AYTOUN agreed with Mr. HENLEY that the return was necessary to give the information as to the charities of the kingdom, while Mr. SHERLOCK and Mr. H. PALMER opposed the resolution, which, on a division, was rejected by 58 to 50.

The means of communication through British Burmah with Western China, and the treatment of prisoners in the gaol at Bathurst, in Gambia, were among the other subjects of general conversation.

The House then went into Committee of Ways and Means, and a vote of 22,000,000*l.* from the Consolidated Fund was agreed to.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and

the House adjourned at twenty minutes to three o'clock.

The House of Commons had a morning sitting on Saturday, at which the Metropolitan Board of Works (Loans) Bill was passed through committee. The clause enabling trustees to invest in the Metropolitan Stock was postponed until the report, and the only controversy which arose was on a clause proposed by Mr. M'CULLAGH TORRENS, prohibiting the Metropolitan Board of Works from selling or letting any lands acquired for the purposes of a park or recreation ground. It was opposed by the Government, but on a division Mr. Torrens carried it by forty to thirty-three.

The report of the last Committee of Supply having been agreed to, the Appropriation Bill was brought in and read a first time. The House adjourned at ten minutes to four o'clock.

On Monday the return of Mr. Gladstone to the Treasury Bench was the signal for very general cheering. At the time of questions Mr. BRIGHT, in answer to Mr. Candlish, promised to lay on the table before the end of the session a bill for consolidating the Merchant Shipping Acts, but, in answer to Mr. Macfie, he declined to pledge the Government to bring in any measure next session, or to propose an inquiry with regard to the patent laws.

Mr. C. REED presented a petition, signed by 8,000 artisans and mechanics resident in the suburban districts of the metropolis, in which the petitioners stated that by the wholesale destruction of workmen's dwellings in and near the metropolis, thousands of workmen had been driven to a distance of five or eight miles from the places of their employment, and prayed that an immediate and searching inquiry might be made as to the railway accommodation at present provided for the working classes, with a view to the amendment of the law relating to such accommodation.

Sir R. ANSTRUTHER gave notice that on an early day next session he would call attention to the number of conventual and monastic institutions existing in the country, and move that in the opinion of the House such institutions ought to be subject to inspection.

In answer to Mr. Stapoole, Mr. C. FORTESCUE said he hoped to be able next session to bring in a measure facilitating the purchase of glebes and glebe-houses for ministers of all religious denominations in Ireland.

In answer to Mr. J. G. Talbot, Mr. BRIGHT said that since the 1st of August communication, either by rope or electricity, had been established in several of the railways out of London.

On Mr. GLADSTONE's motion, it was agreed that Government bills shall have precedence yesterday and to-day, and this led to the withdrawal of the Marriage with the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, Mr. T. CHAMBERS, its author, promising to bring it on at the very earliest moment next year, and making some severe remarks on the factious opposition by which it had been met.

The Lords' amendments to the Bankruptcy Bill and Imprisonment for Debt Bill were considered, and all agreed to with one or two exceptions, such as the new definition of partnerships and companies the Lords have introduced, and the limitation of certain acts of bankruptcy to traders.

SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

The Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill was the next order, and immediately on going into committee Mr. BRUCE stated that in order to facilitate the passage of the bill the Government had agreed to make certain concessions. The general effect of these will be that the interpretation of "heritors," who are to have the management of the parochial schools, will include all proprietors of land, and that the parochial schools will be exempted from the operation of the bill. The proposal did not seem to give entire satisfaction to the Scotch members, Sir G. Ogilvy, Mr. Aytoun, Lord Elcho, Mr. Crauford, and others preferring to throw over the bill rather than accept it in its present form; but Mr. Graham, Sir R. Anstruther, Mr. Cram Ewing, Mr. M'Laren, and Mr. Parker urged the overpowering consideration of passing a measure this session. The management of the bill by the Government was severely criticised; and on behalf of the English members, Mr. HARDY and Mr. LOWTHER complained that it had left them without any possible means of understanding a measure which had gone through five editions. A motion that the Chairman leave the chair—which would have been equivalent to the loss of the bill—was defeated on a division by 113 to 36.

The discussion of the clauses was then continued, and up to 22 they were agreed to with numerous amendments. At Clause 23, the LORD ADVOCATE moved to report progress, and a very acrimonious conversation ensued on the propriety of pressing the bill further. Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR and Mr. ELLICE, from the Liberal side, pointed out that only a third of the clauses had been disposed of, and that enough debateable matter was left for two nights more. Mr. BRUCE raised a general laugh by suggesting that with diligence the bill might be returned to the Lords on Monday next, while Mr. HARDY and Lord Elcho protested strongly against legislating in this haste on a subject so important. It was more than a "bad joke," Lord Elcho said, to ask the Lords to return to town to consider a bill which varied so materially not only from what they had sent down to the Commons, but from that originally laid before them. Ultimately the further progress of the bill was adjourned.

The Bishops' Resignation Bill was read a second

time, the discussion, at Mr. GLADSTONE's urgent request, being postponed until Committee.

On the report of amendments to the Metropolitan Board of Works (Loans) Bill, the controversy over the sale of surplus lands acquired for the purpose of forming parks were renewed, and, on a division, the clause carried on Saturday by Mr. Torrens was struck out by 76 to 55.

The Appropriation Bill was read a second time, and several other bills were forwarded a stage. The House adjourned at a quarter past two o'clock.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following are lists of the candidates who have passed the recent examinations in Arts and Science:—

FIRST B.Sc. EXAMINATION.

PASS EXAMINATION.

FIRST DIVISION.—Edward Bibbins Aveling, University College; Walter William Rouse Ball (First B.A.), University College; Henry Septimus Bott, Owens College; Frank Clowes, Royal College of Chemistry and private study; John William Elwes, King's College; Thomas Oliver Harding, B.A., University College; Marcus Manuel Hartog, University College; Charles William Hodson, Chester College; David Bridge Lees, B.A. Cambridge, Owens and Trinity College, Cambridge; Robert Routledge, Owens College.

SECOND DIVISION.—Hampden Gurney Jameson, University College; Sidney Pollett Oaler, University College; Charles Rigg, Chester College; Robert Davies Roberts, University College.

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC M.B. EXAMINATION.

PASS EXAMINATION.

FIRST DIVISION.—Henry Ashby, Guy's Hospital; Walter William Rouse Ball (First B.A.), University College; Henry Septimus Bott, Owens College; Henry Colgate, University College; Henry Radcliffe Crocker, private study; Peter Thomas Duncan, University College; William Dyson, University and Wesley Colleges; Thomas Eastes, Guy's Hospital; Allen Fennings, Charing-cross and St. Mary's Hospitals; Marcus Manuel Hartog, University College; Charles William Harvey, University College; Walter Benoni Houghton, University College; John Waddington Hubbard (St. def. '89), St. Thomas's Hospital; Henry Humphreys, University College; George Frederick Rossiter, private tuition; Ebenezer Geer Russell, Guy's Hospital; Edward Albert Schafer, University College; Edward Markham Skerritt, B.A., University College; Herbert Taylor, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Edward George Whittle, University College.

SECOND DIVISION.—John Appleyard, University College; Frederic William Baily, King's College; George Thomas Bettany, Guy's Hospital; Samuel Hahnemann Blake, University College; Gerald Bonford, King's College; Henry Seymour Branfoot, Guy's Hospital; Richard Goodwin Breeze, University College; George Buckstone Brown, Owens and University Colleges; William Harrison Coates, private tuition; Edgar Reginald Legassick Crespin, Guy's Hospital; Richard St. Mark Dawes, University College; Andrew Duncan, King's College; George Albert Dandas, Guy's Hospital; William Edward Norton Erith, University College; Charles Firth, Norfolk and Norwich Hospital; Alfred Pearos Gould, University College; Richard Hickman, St. Mary's Hospital; George William Homan, King's College; Samuel Wilson Hope, St. George's Hospital; Hampden Gurney Jameson, University College; David Nelson Knox, M.A., Glasgow, University of Glasgow; David Bridge Lees, B.A., Cambridge, Owens and Trinity Colleges, Cambridge; Thomas Anthony Aloysius McCann, University College; Arthur Nicholson, King's College; Joseph Henry Philpot, King's College; Joseph Numa Rat, King's College; Robert Davies Roberts, University College; George Robert Steil, University College; William Allen Sturge, General Hospital, Bristol.

FIRST B.A. EXAMINATION.

PASS EXAMINATION.

FIRST DIVISION.—James Wilson Addyman, Wesley College; Frederick Wilkins Aveling, University College; Charles Davis Badland, Univ. and Manch. New Colleges; Edwin Relfe Barrett, Lanc. Indep. and Owens Colleges; Richard Garnett Bellasis, the Oratory, Edgbaston; George Blackmore, private study; William Henry Brooks Brewer, private study; William Joseph Brown, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; William James Browne, private study; John Richard Burton, private study; William Buttle, University College; Patrick John Cahill, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; William Carpenter, private study; James Edmund Clark, Flounders College; John Patrick Aloysius Collins, Stonyhurst College; Lawrence Joseph Cosgrave, St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; Robert Hammond Cotton, Rawdon College; Thomas Robertson Craig, private study; George Simmonds Dunn, private study; Alfred Erlebach, private study; Wm. Godfrey Bunting Esquiros, University College; Robert Hales Finch, Blackheath Proprietary School; Robert Edward Gaye, King's College; Robert William Genese, Liverpool Institute; Frederick John Gladman, private study; Brabazon Tooke Hallows, University College; Arthur Hibble Higge, University College; Albert Bassett Hopkins, private study; Alfred Hopkinson, Owens College; Thomas Hopper, private study; David Isaac, Jews' Free School; John Jackson, Moravian College, Fulneck; James Francis Kean, private study; Henry Kirk, Owens College; Eustace John Kitts, Portland Gram. Sch., Plymouth; Patrick J. Lacy, St. Cuthbert's Coll., Ushaw; William Francis Gustavus Larcher, private study; John William Lord, University College; John Loton, private study; Herbert Walter Lucas, St. Stanislaus College, Beaumont; Reginald Thomas Hall Lucas, Lincoln College, Oxford; Bearen Marks, Jews' College; Arthur Milnes Marshall, Bussage Grammar School, Stroud; John Turner Marshall, Rawdon College; John Davenport Mason, W. Wren, M.A.; James Middlemore, private study; Thomas Mitcheson, Collegiate School, Greenwich; Charles Grandison Moore, Huddersfield College; John Philip Munster, St. Stanislaus College, Beaumont; William Felix Munster, St. Stanislaus College, Beaumont; James Ancott Newbold, Owens College; Joseph Shield Nicholson, New College; Robert

Beatson Nightingale, Wesleyan College, Didbury; William Blake Odgers, University College, London, and Trinity Hall, Cambridge; John Hugh O'Doherty, St. Mary's, Donnybrook; James Pickop, private study; Theophilus John Posting, private study; Thomas Randall, St. Mark's College, Chelsea; Henry Shoveller Robertson, Old Trafford School; William George Rashbooke, St. John's College, Cambridge; William James Russell, private study; Stephen George Sale, Regent's Park College; John Sewell, private study; William Sparrow, The Oratory, Edgbaston; John Henry Gybbon Spilsbury, private study; John Thackray, private study; Benjamin West, King's College; Stephen Robins Wiggins, University of Edinburgh; Hugh Williams, Bala Calvinistic College; Robert Merridew Willmer, New College; Edmond Wren, private study.

SECOND DIVISION.—Thomas Ashby, Grove House, Tottenham; Christian Brazer, private study; John James Cavill, King's College and private study; Samuel Whitty Chandler, University College; Osmer Ross Davidson, University College; Gethin Davies, Baptist College, Bristol; Thomas Dunkerley, Manchester New and University College; Robert Henry Fowler, Grove House, Tottenham; Henry William Freeman, private study; Arthur Thomas Larter, private tuition; Edward Henry Lee, University College; William Lightfoot, private study; John Henry Madeley, private study; James Methven, private study; George FitzGerald Murphy, Stonyhurst College; Francis Lorraine Petre, St. Mary's College, Oscott; Edward Roby, private study; Charles Stubbs, Regent's Park College; Alfred Freeman Studdy, private study; Ivor Grainger Vachell, King's School, Sherborne, and private study; George Walker, King's College and private study; Joseph James Whitaker, St. Othbert's College, Ushaw; Jacob Wolf, Jew's Free School; Edward Albert Wurtsburg, University College.

THE ALLEGED ABDUCTION OF A JEWESS.

One of the most extraordinary cases which have ever arisen in the Principality of Wales has been just tried at the Glamorganshire Assizes at Cardiff, and occupied the whole of last week in its elucidation. The respectability of the persons involved, the curious incidents of the case, and the amount of religious feeling it has evoked, have all contributed to make the case one of more than ordinary importance. On each of the six days which the trial occupied the Cardiff Town Hall has been besieged by crowds of respectfully-dressed persons belonging to every religious community, only a portion of whom were enabled to gain admittance to the Assize Court. The case took the form of a civil action for damages, and has been tried by Baron Channell and a special jury. The plaintiff was Barnett Lyons, a money-lender at Cardiff, and the defendants were the Rev. Nathaniel Thomas, a Welsh Baptist minister, and his wife; Mr. John Sanderson Hollier, an iron-merchant, and his wife, all of Cardiff; and Mrs. Keep and Dr. Charles A. Schwartz, editor of the *Scattered Nation*, both of London. The counsel in the case were Mr. Hardinge S. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. Michael for the plaintiff; and Mr. Grove, Q.C., Mr. R. E. Turner (of the Home Circuit, specially retained), and Mr. Hughes for the defendants, who, it was understood, were indemnified by the London Society for the Conversion of the Jews. The papers in the case were most voluminous, and included several hundred letters which had passed between the respective defendants and the young lady who is alleged to have been abducted.

As the respective leaders occupied five or six hours each in addressing the jury, and the witnesses took several days to examine, a general summary of the case as presented by both sides is alone possible. The declaration consisted of two counts, in the first of which the defendants were charged with having "unlawfully enticed and procured Esther Lyons, unlawfully and without the consent of the plaintiff, to depart his service, she being at the time his servant," and in the second, that they "unlawfully received, harboured, and detained the said Esther Lyons, his daughter." The defendants pleaded that they were not guilty, and that Esther Lyons was not the servant of the plaintiff. The evidence showed that in the beginning of 1868 the plaintiff had a pawnshop at Roath, near Cardiff, as well as his loan-office at the Butte Docks, where the family resided—about a mile apart. Esther Lyons previously managed the pawnshop, and slept at home, but in March, 1868, she was kept at home to assist in the household duties. On the 23rd of that month her father returned home about ten o'clock, and was surprised to find that Esther was not in. The family waited till half-past eleven, thinking she had gone out for a walk, and then dispersed about the town to seek for the missing girl. They failed to hear anything about her, and could learn no trace of her on the 24th. An examination of her bedroom showed that she had not taken anything with her except her everyday clothes. The distracted father went to Newport and other places, but failed to get the least clue of her whereabouts, but at last heard that she had been seen at the door of the Rev. N. Thomas on the 23rd. Mr. Lyons went to Mr. Thomas's house on Sunday, the 29th, and told him his business, but Mr. Thomas said he had only returned from the Monmouth assizes on the previous night, and knew nothing about the matter. In reply to the question, "Can you give me any information?" Mr. Thomas said, "I don't know; I don't know nothing." The plaintiff was satisfied by that denial, and went away, but the next day, gaining further information, he repeated his visit and saw Mrs. Thomas. After expressing himself strongly that she knew something about his daughter's disappearance, Mrs. Thomas at last admitted that Esther Lyons had slept in her house on the Monday night, but on the father asking where she then was she replied, "You ask me too strong questions. I told you she

was here one night, I cannot tell you more." The father threatened proceedings, but failed to elicit any further information from the Thomases, although he called almost daily for weeks afterwards, and sometimes four or five times a day. In the interval he received various bits of information which confirmed him in his suspicion that Mrs. Thomas had been and was cognisant of his daughter's disappearance and present abode. Eventually overtures were made for an interview, the father stating that if he was assured that his daughter wished to leave his house he would not pursue his inquiries any more. The negotiations called forth the following extraordinary letter from Mrs. Thomas to Mr. Lyons:—

Roath, Cardiff, May 25, 1868.

My dear Sir,—I promised to reply to your letter of May 14 on Monday. Before considering your proposal as to seeing your dear child, I must make one or two remarks. You seem to imply that I have acted deceitfully, and assert that the whole of the time I have said I know nothing about her. This is not true. I never said so. I told you I did not know where she was, and I spoke truly. I told the police-officer I was wilfully ignorant of her whereabouts. This was also true, and is true now, I thank God. I fear falsehood, nor have I uttered any to you or either of the other of the querists. I was placed in a very difficult position, for I had to shield your child while I replied to you and others' many questions. The dear girl came to me for refuge, having left a very wretched home. I, of course, took her in, but fearing our house was not safe, I advised her to leave us. She did so, and I took care the hands she fell into were of the very safest and best in all ways. Of course I shall never betray those, which is why I halted in your examination of me, and hinted to you that I had said enough, though I volunteered to you the information that she had slept in our house, and was not obliged (as you say) to acknowledge that I gave her shelter, &c. Perhaps this is your awkward way of putting it, however, and not meant as an implication in any way. And now for your threats and accusations, &c. I can only say my conscience is perfectly clear; that I should act the same over again; and that I am not at all afraid of any punishment that you can inflict. I am a friend and no enemy of yourself and family—would not harm a hair of your heads, and would do and suffer a very great deal for your welfare and salvation, and that of your nation, and pay (oh, how fervently!) that the veil may be removed, and that with joy you may see and adore the blessed Messiah who died for you on Calvary, and look upon him whom you have pierced, and mourn and bathe in the fountain opened for sin and for uncleanness, and be saved. The Lord—even Jesus—bless you and all yours. And now for your proposal. I don't know where your dear girl is; but I can find out if I desire so to do. She could be brought to Cardiff to see you; but this would incur a heavy expense, for it would need the far-away travelling expenses of herself and a friend here and back again; and it must be first-class travelling. She was destitute of clothing, so that much expense has been incurred by her friends, as you may suppose; and she is dearly loved by all who have had to do with her, I hear; and one friend remarked, "What a mine of wealth in her loving heart her mother has lost." Now, are you willing to pay 10l. for the expenses of the interview? Any overplus you should, of course, have returned; and you should bring any of your friends to meet her, and she should have a few of hers present; also, you should then see that she was not detained or influenced by any one from the first moment of her flight from your roof; and if she likes she can go back with you, and if not, as I understand, you give a pledge to leave her to her own choice? If you give this pledge and wish the interview, and will hand over the money, I shall then endeavour to find her out, and she can have the plan laid before her.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

L. E. A. THOMAS.

The plaintiff agreed to pay the 10l., and abide by certain conditions in an agreement drawn up in respect of the interview, but when the matter came to the point of signing Mr. Thomas drew back, and said he must make further inquiries, as he was not certain if he could produce the girl. Eventually the interview fell through, and the plaintiff took legal proceedings by making an application to Judge Blackburn in chambers. The matter was before the judge at several sittings, when both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were called upon to make affidavits. Both of them having declared that they had no possible means of discovering where Esther Lyons was, nor could they assist Mr. Lyons in recovering his daughter, the judge was unable to make any order in the case, and the plaintiff was unable to recover his daughter. Soon after the examination in chambers the local and London newspapers published a long statement by the father, which led to a mass of correspondence, and gave rise to discussions in nearly all the association meetings of Welsh ministers throughout the Principality. The discussion ultimately led to an interview being held between the daughter and father in the offices of a London solicitor, at which the girl informed her father that she had embraced the Christian faith, and that she positively declined to return home. She also alleged that she had been ill-treated at home, particularly by her mother, who had used various weapons when ill-using her.

The evidence brought forward at the trial last week showed that Esther Lyons had been taken to the house of Mr. Thomas by a girl named Sarah Carver, that she had remained there one night, then removed to Mrs. Hollier, 2, Brighton-terrace, in the same road, where she remained for two or three weeks, and was then finally taken to Mrs. Keep's, in London, where she was seen by Dr. Schwartz and some other persons who interested themselves on her behalf. She was first placed in a religious educational establishment, afterwards baptized, and finally removed to Germany when the proceedings were taken in chambers. A mass of letters were read by Mr. Giffard in his opening speech, which connected all the defendants with the disappear-

ance and concealment of the girl. These letters and evidence also showed that the girl Sarah Carver was sent to Bristol by Mrs. Thomas soon after Esther's disappearance, so that she might not be traced. Carver was instructed to change her name, and was supplied with money, and written to by both Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Hollier under assumed names. Six or eight letters were also read from Mrs. Keep to her sister, Mrs. Hollier, describing the girl's career in London.

Among other matters proved in the course of the plaintiff's case were certain correspondence with Dinah Lyons, a cousin to Esther, who previous to March was urged by the Thomases to become a Christian convert. They also sent a New Testament by Dinah to Esther, but it was not proved if this reached the latter. Mr. Giffard endeavoured by various portions of the evidence to show that all the defendants were combined in one long series of acts to procure the conversion of young Jewesses, and urged in his address that there was sufficient evidence to show that after Esther Lyons came into the power of the defendants she was so influenced as to be prevented from expressing her own free will. He noticed the letters which she was said to have written soon after her disappearance, and maintained that they could not possibly be the composition of a young girl just converted to Christianity, while in one—intended to be shown to the father—the writer gave a description of Swiss scenery which she had not even seen. The evidence he thought sufficient to show that there had been combined action upon the part of the defendants to a common object. That object was the conversion of a young Jewess, which would not be unlawful in itself; but he maintained that, after the girl had got into the defendants' power, they, by cajolery and falsehood, prevented her expressing her own mind until she had been sufficiently instilled with their views and steered against the natural influences of home. Then, and only then, did they permit an interview between father and child, and the result, as may easily have been anticipated, was that the child expressed her determination to remain with her new-found friends, who had released her from the labours of a pawnshop and placed her in the position of a lady.

For the defence, Esther Lyons, Dr. Schwartz, the Rev. N. and Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Hollier, Mrs. Keep, and several other witnesses, were all put in the box. The excitement which attended the earlier days of the trial reached its climax on Wednesday night, when Esther Lyons fainted on one of the most important of the questions being put to her—namely, whether her earlier letters were the result of her own thoughts, or were dictated to her by other persons. The Judge considered the evidence of this witness so material that he directed that she should be given in charge of the governor of the gaol, Mr. Wren, during the night, so that she might not be communicated with by the witnesses on either side. Both on Wednesday and Thursday on Esther Lyons being brought into court a "scene" occurred—the mother, who with the rest of her family were sitting in a seat behind the jury-box, crying out, "Esther! dear Esther! come and sit by your mother," and her excitement was such at seeing her child after an interval of fifteen months, that she fainted away, and had to be carried out of court on each occasion. The girl Esther gave her evidence with great deliberation and care, and in the course of several hours' questioning she stated that she was nineteen years of age last March. She spoke to numerous acts of cruelty on the part of her mother, who had beat her with a variety of missiles, frequently offered to "do for her," and on one previous occasion she had left home on account of her violence. Esther denied having the slightest communication with Mrs. Thomas or any of the other defendants prior to the day she left home. She determined on leaving home on the 23rd of March, and arranged with Sarah Carver to meet her in the evening. She did meet her, and asked Sarah Carver if she could get her aunt to allow her to stay at her house for a night, and afterwards, if she would not take her to her (Carver's) mother's house at Newport. Afterwards Sarah Carver suggested going to Mrs. Thomas's house, and they went there. They told Mrs. Thomas that she (Esther) had been ill-treated by her mother, and that after some conversation Mrs. Thomas consented to allow her to remain for the night. Esther expressed her desire that she might get into some situation, and the following morning she was taken to Mrs. Sleeman's house, next door to Mrs. Hollier's, where she remained for four or five weeks. She was several times asked if she would not go home, and even advised to apply to a magistrate for protection, but Esther expressed so much terror at the thought of being given up to her parents that she was ultimately sent to Mrs. Keep's, in London, where she remained for two months. Afterwards she was placed in an educational institution, and in consequence of the proceedings which were being taken by the father in Chambers, she was despatched to Germany, where she remained till last month. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, in their evidence, denied that they had seen Esther from the time she left Cardiff till the day of her appearance in the witness-box, and stated that they were ignorant of the whereabouts of Esther from the time she left Cardiff. Mr. Thomas admitted that when he drew up the agreement regarding the interview he had an "expectation" of being able to secure the girl's attendance, but from what he afterwards learnt he thought it advisable to withdraw the half-signed agreement. Mrs. Hollier corroborated the Thomases in their statement that she was the only means they had of communicating with Esther, and she proved that within a very short time after Esther left Cardiff she (Mrs. Hollier) was also completely ignorant of her whereabouts—her sister, Mrs.

Keep, stating that it was better for Esther and all parties that there should be a complete severance of communication. Mrs. Keep proved that she acted upon the advice of her London friends in cutting off their communication with Esther. She denied that the letters Esther sent were, with one or two exceptions, anything but her (Esther's) own composition, and gave particulars of Esther's conversion to Christianity and baptism in London.

The summing up of the learned Judge was commenced at the opening of the court on Saturday morning. He said the action was brought for enticing away a person named Esther Lyons, supposed to be in the service of the plaintiff, and damages were claimed for the loss the plaintiff had sustained by reason of the loss of service of his daughter. He remarked upon the uniqueness of the case, and said in the whole course of his experience at the bar and on the bench he had never known a case of so very painful a character, or one in which family affections and religious prejudices were so mixed up. Few persons had heard the case without feeling sympathy—he would say well-founded sympathy—for the sufferings of the father, but their verdict must not be founded on sympathy alone. They must be satisfied that the defendants had done one of two acts—either that they had enticed the girl away from her father's house, or that they harboured her, knowing that she was her father's servant at the time they harboured her. He was of opinion it was sufficiently clear that Esther was the "servant," in a legal view, of the plaintiff as regards the first count of the declaration. The jury would see if it was proved that the defendants enticed her away, and in connection with this it was important to notice the evidence of one of the plaintiff's witnesses, Sarah Carver, who stated that when she went away with Esther she at first proposed to go to Carver's aunt's, and then to her mother's, and that it was not till Carver suggested Mrs. Thomas's that they went there. In order to sustain the second count, the jury must be satisfied that the defendants harboured the girl at a time when they knew she was the servant of the plaintiff. The girl being of a certain age, she was qualified to express her determination to leave her father's service, and if she did so, the father had no right to detain her. Supposing it was proved that the girl had been enticed away, if the girl expressed any determination not to return home, then the second count could not be maintained. His Lordship adverted to the various portions of the evidence which reflected on these two points. In conclusion, he said that if the jury were of opinion that the plaintiff was entitled to a verdict, then would come the question of damages, and on that point he was in great doubt, for there had been no previous case like it. His opinion, however, was that the plaintiff would only be entitled to damages for the loss of services sustained and not for solatium damages, as in the case of seduction.

The jury retired, and were absent from the court four hours, when they returned the following verdict:—"We find that Esther Lyons was enticed away from her father's home by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, and we award the plaintiff 50*l.* damages."

His Lordship said that was a verdict for the plaintiff on the first count only.

A verdict was entered in favour of the defendants Mr. and Mrs. Hollyer and Mrs. Keep, the action having been withdrawn against Dr. Schwartz at the commencement of the case. The verdict was received with applause by the Jewish portion of the audience present; but, as the case has created both political and religious feeling, the result was generally received with surprise, particularly after the summing up of the judge, which was considered to preclude the possibility of a verdict being found for the plaintiff. Mr. Turner, on behalf of the defendants, applied for a case for the Superior Court, and his Lordship immediately gave leave to move generally.

AN ENGLISH CONSUL IN CHINA ON THE CONDUCT OF THE MISSIONARIES.

In a new series of China papers, Mr. Alabaster, the Consul at Swatow, has the following remarks on the subject of missions:—

I have a word to say regarding the English, or rather Scotch, mission established here, as its progress and prosperity are largely, although indirectly, bound up with our commercial interests. Established some ten years ago, its agent, Mr. Smith, even then, notwithstanding the irritation against foreigners, maintained his position at Swatow, and the mission stations have since spread to all the districts round, and at great personal risk the footing of the mission has gradually been made good. Nor has this been done by constant appeal to a protecting gunboat; the consul and the authorities have from time to time been called on to extend protection, but it has ever been rather to prevent recurrence of violence than to obtain redress; the missionaries seeking but the opportunity of being heard rather than obtaining the punishment of those who, rather from ignorance than anything else, had offered them insult or injury. By these means they have in many places obtained the good feeling of the people, who, led away by inconsiderate excitement, naturally expected to suffer the consequence of their violence, and in many of their chapels they are far more secure than they would have been had an army marched in to exact satisfaction for the opposition offered to their entry. And in another way they have obtained powerful support in their careful abstaining from interference in the temporal concerns of their converts; for although, had they always been ready to take up the cause of a professing Christian with the consuls and authorities, they would probably have numbered many more nominal converts, they would have had no security for the sincerity of their followers, and would have been regarded with jealousy and resentment by the mandarins, instead of, as at present, with toleration and even friendship. From two labourers

their numbers have been increased to four, and while one is always present at the hospital and headquarters in Swatow, the others visit the out-stations and make tours through the country, preaching and distributing Bibles and tracts; and although it is impossible to rightly estimate the extent of their work by a statement of the number of their chapels and congregations, its effects can be and are felt by the community generally in the spread of the good report of foreigners, and the acquainting of the people to them in a favourable light in places heretofore inaccessible to us, and which, had less judicious agents visited them first, might still have remained closed to us. So long as the missionaries devote themselves to the preaching of the Gospel, they must succeed, and the merchant, the traveller, and the official will always find the way smoother before him where an honest missionary has gone before him.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 4th, 1869.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords the Telegraphs Bill was read a second time, on the motion of Lord LANS-DOWNE, who explained the increased facilities which the new system would offer to the public, and held out hopes of an eventual uniform rate of sixpence.

The Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill was read a third time and passed, after a fruitless protest by Lord SALISBURY against the constant imposition of new burdens, individually small but collectively heavy, on railway companies, which were not allowed to recoup themselves by additional charges.

The opposition to the Dublin Freeman Commission Bill was renewed by Lord LONGFORD, who, however, receiving no encouragement from Lord CAIRNS, did not press his amendment, and the bill went through committee.

The Nitro-Glycerine Bill was read a second time. Lord CAIRNS advocated the exemption of harmless compounds, such as dynamite, from its provisions, but Lord MORLEY replied that the Home Secretary would be able to license their importation and storage.

The Trades Union (Protection of Funds) Bill was read a third time and passed; and, a long list of measures having been advanced a stage, their Lordships adjourned at half-past six.

The House of Commons gave a morning sitting to the Indian Budget. The annual statement of our Indian finances was made by Mr. GRANT DUFF, and it was necessarily to a great extent a repetition of the figures given by the Duke of Argyll in the House of Lords last week. A long and desultory discussion ensued, and the debate was adjourned.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

The evening sitting commenced by an attempt to count out, which was unsuccessful, and Mr. FAWCETT, in an unusually brief speech, moved a resolution in favour of freeing the Fellowships and Scholarships of Trinity College, Dublin, from all religious disabilities. Having examined the rival schemes—one for affiliating denominational Colleges to the University and another for splitting up Trinity College—he argued that his own scheme of opening the College to men of all denominations would be the most advantageous to the Irish people. Alluding to the supposed readiness of the authorities of Trinity College to accept his suggestion, he predicted that it would open to it the widest career of usefulness, and he pointed out various internal reforms which were necessary, such as the simplification of the modes of election and the equalization of the emoluments of the senior and junior Fellows.

Dr. BALL, declining to discuss at this period of the session a motion which involved the whole question of University education in Ireland, stated to the House that he had been informed by the Board of Trinity College of their intention, under the altered ecclesiastical condition of Ireland, not to oppose it. The University having been founded in connection with the Protestant Episcopal Church, as long as the Church was established in Ireland they felt bound to resist the intrusion of persons not belonging to that Church into the governing body. But at the same time he showed they had acted most liberally in throwing open the emoluments and education of the College to all religions. At the present moment only the Fellowships, the Foundation Scholarships, and the few Professorships connected with the divinity schools were retained for the Protestant Episcopalians. (Dr. Ball, in the conclusion of his speech, indicated a strong preference for undenominational education, and expressed an earnest hope that there would be no legislation to destroy the beneficial social effects of educating together young men of all religious denominations.)

Mr. C. FORTESCUE, admitting the duty of the Government to deal in due time with the question, intimated that he could not support the resolution, as it did not meet the case of those who had to complain of the present state of University education in Ireland. Their grievance was not that they could not obtain the highest dignities and emoluments of Trinity College, but that they could not obtain a University degree except by passing through Colleges constructed on a system not acceptable to the majority of the population. This resolution did not remedy this sense of inequality, and he pointed out that the question could not be dealt with on the same considerations in a country where the bulk of the population was Roman

Catholic as where it only interested different sections of Protestants.

Mr. FAWCETT, in reply, said it was useless to divide at this period of the session, but he protested against the leaning towards denominational education disclosed in Mr. Fortescue's speech, and warned him that he would be opposed by the great majority of the Liberal party. This called up Mr. BAUM, who protested against what he thought was a distortion of the Irish Secretary's language, and asserted that the "supplemental charter" which had been alluded to had nothing to do with denominational education. Sir P. O'BRIEN also made some observations, maintaining the duty of consulting the wishes of the people in settling this question of University education, and the motion was withdrawn.

Various other matters having been discussed,

The House, considerably after midnight, got into committee on the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill at the 24th clause, with 250 amendments on the paper. More than two hours were consumed in a preliminary wrangle—which has become peculiar to this bill—whether it should be dropped or not. This course was strongly pressed on the Government by Mr. ELLIEN, Sir E. COLERBROOK, and others; and Mr. BRUCE replied that the Government, if supported by the Scotch members, would persevere with the bill to the last. At half-past one the committee divided on a motion that the "Chairman leave the chair," which was defeated by ninety-eight to thirty-five. Lord ETCO immediately moved that the Chairman report progress, in order to save the question of Scotch education from Parliamentary ridicule, and as a protest against the power of a strong Government being used to force through so important measure at the far end of the session. It was beaten by 102 to 24. But after a third motion to the same effect, which for the sake of giving time for consideration was supported by Mr. Bouverie, Mr. Adair, Lord Bury, and others, had been rejected by 100 to 24, the Government yielded to a fourth, and at 2.25 progress was reported without the bill being forwarded a single line.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past three o'clock.

SPAIN.

The Carlist rising in Spain is reported to be gaining ground, and Toledo and Avila are said to have pronounced in favour of Don Carlos. The Captain-General of Madrid has declared that he will retire, unless a Sovereign is chosen by the Government without further loss of time.

On Monday General Prim had a long conversation, during the reception held at his house, with M. Mercier de Lostende, the French Ambassador, in the course of which he stated that no anxiety need be entertained respecting the Carlist movements.

The life of the Duke of Victoria, better known as Epartero, ex-Regent of Spain, is despaired of.

We are again assured that there is no truth in the rumour of an understanding between Spain and the United States, with a view to the recognition of Cuban independence.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Very few samples of English wheat were brought forward. There was only a moderate attendance of buyers, and the demand was not active. Nevertheless, both red and white produce was firmly held. The market was moderately supplied with foreign wheat. Transactions were not extensive, but full prices were realised. The show of barley was moderate. The trade was firm, at late rates. Business in malt was limited, on former terms. A fair amount of animation was noticed in the oat trade, and the recent advance was maintained. The supply was good, but was almost entirely composed of foreign qualities. Beans were firm in value. Peas were in moderate request, at previous quotations. The flour market was firm, at about stationary prices.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	340	—	—	—	—
Irish	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign	7,670	1,140	—	1,380	10,379 aka. 3,080 bria.
					Malt, 12,420 qrs.

COMPARATIVE QUANTITIES AND PRICES OF GRAIN.

For the week ended July 31.				For the corresponding week last year.			
	Qrs.	Av. a d.		Qrs.	Av. a d.		
Wheat	37,905	51 9	Wheat	34,338	51 1		
Barley	132	31 4	Barley	368	39 3		
Oats	1,212	27 9	Oats	871	30 5		

Numbers of ladies are becoming newspaper reporters in New York.

REPORTERS' STRIKE.—The *Star* notes "a strike in the Reporters' Gallery." "The gentlemen of the Press," over-wearied by the recent prolonged debates, deserted the House at what ought to have been the end of one of the recent sittings, and so the eloquence of certain hon. members is unreported. "It is only fair, however, to the reporters to say that there is another explanation given of their absence; albeit, we believe the above to be the true one. It is that an hon. member, in talking of the Nitro Glycerine Bill, inquired whether the qualities of that dangerous substance were identical with those of dynamite—at the same time producing a specimen of the latter from his pocket, at sight whereof the gentlemen of the Press, as a matter of personal safety, withdrew to a safe distance to avoid the possibility of a catastrophe unimagined since the days of Guy Faux."

ABOLITION of the IRISH CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

At a Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, held JULY 30th, 1869, was RESOLVED as follows:—

With feelings of profound satisfaction, and of devout gratitude, the Executive Committee record the fact that, after twenty-five years of patient effort, the objects of the Society have been realised in one portion of the United Kingdom, by the abolition of the National Ecclesiastical Establishment which has existed for centuries in Ireland, and the consequent enjoyment of religious equality by the inhabitants of that country.

In the passing, by peaceful and constitutional means, of the "Act to put an end to the Establishment of the Church of Ireland," they recognise the result of various concurring causes, and of the labour of many individuals, both in and out of Parliament, who, either in past years or at a recent period, have sought to awaken in the mind of the nation a sense of the injustice inflicted by the Irish Establishment on the Irish people.

While gladly acknowledging that the successful issue of these exertions is due, in no small degree, to the co-operation of Liberal Episcopalians, the Committee attribute to the firmness of the great body of Nonconformists the adoption of a policy of impartial disavowal as opposed to one of indiscriminate endorsement; their protest against the latter having been aided, to an important extent, by the refusal of Irish Roman Catholics to participate in any redistribution of the revenues of the Establishment, or to accept of any other endowment from the State.

The Committee desire to express their strong and lasting sense of obligation to the Right Honourable William Ewart Gladstone, M.P., for the courage and decision with which he undertook the settlement of this great controversy; the distinguished ability, and the conscientious consideration, with which he has grappled with its many difficulties, and the unwavering adherence to right principles which has marked his conduct of the measure which has now become law. They have also regarded with admiration the efficient aid afforded to the Prime Minister by his colleagues in both Houses of Parliament, as well as the ardour and fidelity with which the Government has been supported by the Liberal party in the House of Commons.

Disclaiming, in the prosecution of their aims, all narrow and sectarian motives, the Committee express their earnest hope that the beneficial effects of this memorable act of justice on the part of the Imperial Parliament will speedily be seen in the contentment, union, and prosperity of the population of Ireland. More especially, they trust that the members of the Disestablished Church may be so strengthened and guided as that, wisely using the liberty of action now accorded to it, their Church may, by its vigour and efficiency, become an example to the religious communities still established by law, and begot in them a desire to enjoy the like freedom.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Chairman.
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.

ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL and UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

At a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL, held JULY 30th, 1869, it was RESOLVED:—

I. That this Committee congratulates the Society's friends on the passing of the Bill to amend the law relating to Endowed Schools and other Educational Endowments in England; whereby it is provided that, except in certain cases, religious opinions shall not affect the qualification of the governing bodies, and also that scholars shall be exempted from attendance at religious services, or lessons, which may be objected to by their parents. That, looking to the large powers vested in the Commissioners to be appointed under the Act, and to the number and importance of the educational interests which it will effect, the Committee urge the necessity for vigilantly watching the operation of the measure, with a view to advancing the interests of religious equality, and to effect such further changes as may be shown to be needed.

II. That the Committee have viewed with deep regret the course pursued by the Upper House of Parliament in summarily rejecting the University Tests Abolition Bill; notwithstanding the adoption of the measure by large majorities in the House of Commons, and the support afforded to it by those who are most deeply concerned in upholding the position, and promoting the usefulness, of the Universities. That, looking to the mode in which the Bill has been dealt with in the present session, the Committee are of opinion that, in the next session of Parliament, such decisive steps should be taken as will ensure the due consideration of the question by both branches of the Legislature.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Chairman.
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.

THE WHITTINGTON LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS COMPANY commemorated the completion of its FOURTEENTH YEAR on TUESDAY last, the 3rd inst., at the CHIEF OFFICE, No. 37, Moorgate-street, London, E.C. The Chairman of the Company, T. H. HARRIS, Esq., of Finsbury and Croydon, presided, and was supported by B. Barnell, Esq., Philip Orellin, Jan., Esq., J. F. Marrough, Esq., S. H. Anthony, Esq., J. Cook, Esq., Dawson Burns (Rev.), W. Hopcroft, Esq., Thomas Walker, Esq., E. S. Stillwell, Esq., J. Carvell Williams, Esq., J. Stoneman Saunders, Esq., and other Shareholders.

On the call of the Chairman, the Secretary, A. T. Bowser, Esq., proceeded to read—"The 14th Annual Report of the Directors and the Report of the Triennial valuation." The length of the report precludes our printing it in full, but those of our readers who are interested in the "Whittington" may gather its report from the following summary, viz. :—The report calls attention to the following significant facts:—that this Company is one of the few Life Insurance Companies which have regularly registered their subscribed capital; that the amount of that capital is £ 9,250, and that out of that amount £31,457 11s. 2d. remains as a reserve available to insure complete and faithful performance of all its engagements. The report states that the new business of the year has been larger in amount than in any previous year, and gives the following figures in support of the statement:—

Proposals received, 996 for	£40,333
Cases completed, 714 for	172,323
Annual Premium Income of New Business	5,025
Cases not yet completed, 226 for	49,850
Cases declined, 56 for	18,160

Reference is made in the report to the fifty-six declined cases as illustrative of the care with which this Company transacts its business; and while occasion is taken, from allusion to Second Class Lives, to point out the facilities this Company furnishes to such Lives, First Class Lives are shown that their interests suffer nothing from the extension of Life Assurance advantages to that class. The painfully interesting matter of claims comes in as usual, and one learns that in the financial year, ending 30th April, 1869, this Company's contribution to repair the ravages made by Death was £12,785, elevating the total paid in this way since the commencement of the Company to £50,944. The important feature in this year's report is, a paragraph on the fourth triennial valuation of the Assets and Liabilities of the Company, which condenses into a sentence the results of the labour of the Company's Actuaries, Thomas Walker, Esq., B.A., F.I.A., as follows:—"The Company's Assets are of the value of £423,594 6s. 6d.; its Liabilities are £290,013 15s. 6d.; and there is a surplus of

£33,575 11s. 6d." And another important feature full of interest for Shareholders and Policyholders is, that one-sixth of that surplus will be distributed among them. The remainder of the report deals with the appropriation of this Bonus, and the general management and formal business of the Company, and closes with a few earnest words to Agents, Policyholders, Shareholders, and friends of the Company. The ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting was agreeably and satisfactorily transacted, and the meeting terminated by a unanimous vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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" Year	1	6

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1869.

SUMMARY.

THE Parliamentary Session drags on, and the day of the prorogation cannot definitely be fixed, owing to the anxiety of Government to push through several measures, which many members of the House of Commons are anxious to postpone. The chief of these is the Scotch Education Bill, which was transformed by the Lords, and has been restored to nearly its original shape by the Lord Advocate. The Scotch members seem to be divided in opinion; though the majority, including the staunchest friends of undenominational education, evidently desire to pass a mutilated Bill rather than none at all, in the belief, we suppose, that the handful of peers now at Westminster will consent to waive their scruples. But the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill sticks fast in Committee, and three hours were spent last night in fruitless talk, without a single clause being passed. Mr. Bruce, seeing that such a measure will stand no chance next Session, is as firm as Lord Elcho, the leader of the obstructionists, and he pledges himself as long as a sufficient number of members assist the Government that they will press the Bill forward. But the Home Secretary and Scotch Liberals will probably have to give way in order that the prorogation may not be indefinitely delayed. Happily the Prime Minister is so far restored to health that he is able to resume his arduous duties as leader of the House of Commons, from which we trust he may be speedily released to enjoy a long season of well-earned rest.

The supplies for the year are all voted, and the Appropriation Bill has been brought in. The Government, notwithstanding their economical tendencies, have had sore trouble with the estimates. For the first time this many a year there have been real and beneficial discussions in Committee of Supply, owing to the vigilance of a band of economists who deserve great credit for their perseverance. Mr. Baxter has done so much to restrict our naval expenditure, and suppress jobbery at the Admiralty, that the estimates for that department have been easily disposed of. The cost of our Horse Guards administration awaits future criticism. But the Civil Service charges have been attacked on all sides. On Thursday Mr. Rylands, in an able speech, moved that the expenditure for our Diplomatic Service (which costs near a quarter of a million) should be reduced by 10,000l. The hon. member for Warrington carried the House so far with him as to obtain a tie (sixty-six on each side), and was beaten only by the casting vote of the Chairman. The Government have, however, promised a full inquiry into the expenses of the Foreign Office—which has so long been a preserve for the scions of our aristocracy—with a view to a large reduction next year.

Mr. Gilpin's motion for the abolition of capital punishment, though rejected by a majority of sixty, obtained a larger number of votes, and was met by a feebler resistance, than has heretofore been the case. So practical and Conservative a politician as Mr. Henley has been obliged to surrender his former views on the subject, being convinced by the "logic of facts" that there has been no increase in those crimes for which capital punishment has been remitted

over that of murder, in respect to which it had been retained. Mr. Bruce, though opposed to the motion, forcibly described the difficulties in which the Home Office is placed by the unsatisfactory state of the law. This week only Mr. Bruce has felt it necessary to reprieve two criminals who had been sentenced to death, and it is evident that in future the extreme sentence of the law will rarely be carried into effect. Surely it would be better to abolish this terrible penalty, seeing that it does not exert that moral influence upon the community which it is the special aim of capital punishment to exercise.

Last night there was a debate on University reform in Dublin which was not altogether satisfactory. Mr. Fawcett brought forward his motion for removing all disabilities in connection with Trinity College, Dublin, and was supported by Dr. Ball, who confirmed the report that that University is prepared to make such concessions, so that the youth of all religious denominations in Ireland may be educated together within its walls. The Irish Secretary, however, exhibited a marked preference for denominational colleges in that country, which excited expressions of dissent from the Liberal benches so decided that Mr. Bruce was obliged to explain away Mr. Fortescue's language. The Government should take timely warning from Mr. Fawcett's declaration that there is nothing which the Liberal party in this country and in Scotland more deeply cherish and are more firmly pledged to, than the carrying out of undenominational education.

THE IMPERIAL "GIFT HORSE."

THE constitutional reforms submitted to the French Senate on Monday are in exact accordance with the promise contained in the Emperor's letter of July 12th. The "six points" have expanded into twelve, though including the same concessions. During the three weeks interval the Legislative Body has been summarily prorogued, and a good deal of popular excitement has prevailed. While the Left Centre, comprising more than a hundred members, has wisely held its peace, the deputies of the Left have been expressing their dissatisfaction in isolated addresses, and repudiating in advance the promised boons. Their action was superfluous as well as premature. Napoleon III., unmoved by the fears of friends and the distrust of enemies, has redeemed his pledge; and though the reforms were expounded by M. Rouher, the great champion of personal government, in his capacity of President of the Senate, they are found to have lost nothing of their intrinsic value. It is something that the Emperor has extorted amongst a distrustful population confidence in his good faith.

Substantially the *senatus consultum* appears to yield the principle of Ministerial responsibility and Parliamentary initiative. "The Ministers," we are told, "are to depend only on the Emperor," which only expresses the familiar idea of the British Constitution. Heretofore his Majesty's chief advisers have been the mouthpiece of the Imperial decisions in the Legislature. They have been messengers, but not deputies. In future they will be members either of the Senate or the Representative Chamber, and thus have to answer to these bodies for the policy of the Government. The Senate is no longer to be a kind of lay figure, or a machine through which Imperial decrees pass, but an active body, which may interpellate the Government, discuss amendments to Bills sent up from the Lower House, and send them back for further consideration. The Chamber of Deputies is to have the right of appointing its own officials, to pronounce its opinion on the laws submitted by the Government, to vote the Budget in chapters instead of *en bloc*, and to have a voice in the modification of the customs tariff. "The initiative of making laws is to rest with the Emperor and the Legislative Body." Whether this provision means that the Chamber can propose laws of its own motion, or is only empowered to discuss those which are submitted by the Government, does not seem to us very material. The power of veto is conceded, at least in principle, though restricted by the arrangement requiring amendments to be previously accepted in the bureaux and sanctioned by the Government.

The Imperial project of reform may not be a new Charter, but it subverts the system established in 1852, and contains the germs of a constitutional system of government. It is a point of departure—a rough frame-work, clumsy, ill-proportioned, and not without contradictory provisions, and useless checks. But a legislature, patient and at the same time resolute—careless of mere form while retaining the substance—can easily, if backed by public opinion, neutralise cumbrous safeguards, and exercise real authority. Representative institutions in France are no longer a make-believe, but a vital

force which can control the Government and restrict the sovereign will. It is for the people rather than the Government to supply the motive power. M. Rouher himself, in his introductory speech, admitted the far-reaching significance of the proposed changes. These constitutional reforms are intended "to interpret and consecrate the will of the country." If, then, not Imperial claims to infallibility, but "the will of the country" is to rule supreme, France will henceforth be mistress of her own destinies. The edifice has been improved, but not as yet "crowned." The President of the Senate, spite of his prepossessions, tacitly disavows the doctrine of finality. The Emperor has taken the Legislature into his confidence, and it is quite possible that he may find he has thereby relieved himself of a load of anxiety.

It now remains to be seen whether, as M. Rouher says, quoting the language of the Roman Emperor, "the Empire is sufficiently popular to go hand-and-hand with liberty, and strong enough to preserve it from anarchy." The issue depends not only on the progressive policy of the Sovereign, but upon the good sense of the French people. To the former it will be a sore trial to surrender, one by one, the rights he has exercised as an Autocrat for eighteen years—to see his prerogatives restricted, his plans sharply criticised, and his resources diminished. He can no longer maintain the rôle of a second Providence to France, and will probably have to submit to a great reduction of the national expenditure, which implies a restriction of French armaments, and an abatement of foreign influence. But such sacrifices can more easily be endured by a ruler who has entered his sixty-second year than by an autocrat in the vigour of his powers. If the Empire should acquire "renewed strength, lustre, and popularity" by constitutional concessions, Napoleon III. will be able to contemplate with little anxiety the prospects of his successor. No doubt the Emperor has more thought for the interests of his son than had his imperious uncle. At least he has yielded in time.

But Napoleon III., thanks to his own assumptions, has still to contend with a dynastic Opposition. Revolution, not reform, is the creed of some of the ablest members of the Legislature. It is only after a long reign, and ominous signs of alienation of the people, that the Emperor has opened a field for independent statesmanship. His numerical majority has crumbled away at the first signs of real danger; but, happily for him, a considerable portion of that majority has asserted its independence of the Court. It is not his obsequious vassals in the Chamber, but the Left Centre, which is the real safeguard against organic changes and the barrier to revolution. It may be almost said that the constitutional spirit—that spirit which can tolerate opposition, and seeks to gain its object by patient discussion and moral force—has yet to be created in France. There are some signs that our neighbours are wiser than they were, and that they are learning that freedom can more surely be gained by degrees than by one supreme effort. A Napoleon cannot contend with the moral strength of a nation moving quietly towards its purpose, while he can suppress with superior physical force and organisation the outbreaks of revolutionary passion.

THE BALLOT IN SIGHT.

"THE Ballot is looming in the not distant future," is the conclusion drawn by the *Times*, the persistent antagonist of secret voting, from the Draught Report of the Committee on Parliamentary and Municipal Elections. We rather pity our contemporary just now, though such sympathy may not be acceptable. Its course is strewn with abandoned Conservative professions. The *Times* has this year given up the law of entail, taken the ill-treated compound householder once more to its embrace, and gone in for full University reform. It is now writing complacently of marriage law reform, and is making a supreme effort to swallow the Ballot. In a year or two perchance it may point the moral of an Irish Free Church for the behoof of the Anglican Establishment. But be that as it may, the *Times*, disdainful of all pioneers and "forlorn hopes," prefers to be in genteel company. And when the Marquis of Hartington, following the example of other Cabinet Ministers, gives his opinion, as the chairman of the Committee referred to, that "the adoption of the Ballot appears to tend greatly to the tranquillity of elections," and Mr. Ward Hunt, the Conservative ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, accepts the overwhelming testimony to the advantages of secret voting, and pleads only for subsequent publicity "in the event of the election being challenged on petition," the leading journal is not premature in preparing to turn its back on its former self.

The Committee on Parliamentary and Municipal Elections have practically concluded the inquiry entrusted to them. No combined decision is recorded, but it is proposed that the Committee shall be re-appointed early next Session, "for the purpose only of considering their report with a view to further legislation." Meanwhile they have accumulated a mass of evidence relative to the action of the Ballot in France, Italy, Greece, and our Australian colonies, which tends to prove, in the language of the Chairman's proposed Report, that wherever it has been in operation, "elections have been entirely free from intimidation, riot, and disorder"; "bribery and treating have been reduced to a minimum, personal canvassing has been discouraged, and the expense of elections has been diminished"; and that in examining the defects of the system in actual working "we have failed to discover any defects which cannot easily be remedied, or any abuses to which open voting is not equally obnoxious." The body of evidence given before the Committee has not yet been published, but there can be no doubt that when it appears, the testimony of so many witnesses in various countries as to the efficacy of secret voting will give greater strength during the recess to the tide of opinion which is setting in in favour of the Ballot, and which the watchful *Times* has duly registered.

The interim report of the Select Committee embraces the whole question of the operation of our electoral machinery both in respect to Parliamentary and Municipal contests. It confirms the current impression as to the corruption which increasingly marks our municipal elections, and the bribery and intimidation that prevail in the old Parliamentary boroughs. Besides the adoption of secret voting in the case of Municipal as well as Parliamentary elections, the Draught Report suggests the abolition of public nominations, and the increase of polling-places. Apparently the Committee are nearly agreed in opinion as to the efficacy of the two latter remedies. Mr. Bright further contends "that the hiring of rooms in public-houses for committee-rooms during elections is a fruitful source of expense and of corruption, and should be discountenanced and forbidden by law," while the chairman thinks there would be great difficulty in framing an enactment for the purpose of abolishing the use of paid canvassers, and expresses doubt "whether the inconvenience to the public generally of closing public-houses on the days of nomination and polling would be great enough to outweigh its undoubted advantages."

It is evident that, before another appeal to the country is made, the whole machinery for conducting Parliamentary elections will be reformed, with a view to promote "the tranquillity, purity, and freedom" of these political contests. The cost of these appeals to the constituencies has become a public scandal; their demoralising influence, as at present conducted, is too obvious to admit of denial. The Ballot may not be a complete remedy for the glaring evils which make a general election "a Saturnalia in which the worst of everything comes uppermost." But as Lord Hartington says, "It would put an end to some of the evils of our electoral system, and would tend to mitigate rather than to aggravate those which it would not entirely remove." And Mr. Ward Hunt admits generally that the weight of evidence is in favour of "the discontinuance of open voting, and the substitution for it of secret voting." That principle once conceded, all the rest will follow. As the *Daily News* says, "The one thing needful for the restoration of our electoral system to health and purity and vigour is to give the vote that shield of secrecy which has proved effectual against bureaucratic despotism and democratic violence, and which will prove equally effectual in England against landlord dictation and mob intimidation." We doubt not that, at the right time—whether it be next Session or subsequently—Mr. Gladstone's Government will be prepared to give effect to the popular wishes by proposing vote by Ballot.

LYONS VERSUS THOMAS, &c.

THE case of "Lyons versus Thomas" has unquestionably been one of the most painful cases ever tried before a Court of Justice. That it lasted six days, and that it caused great local excitement, can easily be understood. It had an element of romance as well of religion. There was alleged abduction and there was ostensible conversion. A Jewess had turned Christian, and a Christian minister was charged with a grave legal offence. Here were materials for any amount of morbid excitement, and, as Cardiff is not a particularly romantic, or even a particularly lively town, we can, as we have said, easily understand why its inhabitants, "including nearly all the clergy and

ministers of the town and neighbourhood, and a large proportion of the local gentry," should be anxious to be present, and should show great interest in the case. When, however, all the evidence comes to be described, it strikes us, as it will, we think, strike the reader, that it is slightly common-place, and, to outsiders, not worth all the attention that has been bestowed upon it.

A great deal of time was taken up, and no doubt necessarily taken up, in bringing together the facts of the case. The charges against Mr. Thomas, who is the pastor of a Baptist Church at Cardiff, and the other defendants, were that they had enticed and persuaded that Esther Lyons, unlawfully and without consent of the plaintiff, to depart his service, she being at the time his servant, and that they had "unlawfully received, harboured, and detained the said Esther Lyons." The prosecutor was Barnett Lyons, a pawnbroker and money-lender, and a Jew, and Esther Lyons was his daughter, and, in a legal sense, his servant. On the 23rd of March of last year, Esther Lyons left her father's house, and no trace of her could be found for about a month. She had, it appears, left the house, of her own free will, injudiciously, no doubt, and without sufficient thought; but want of judgment and thought are not unusual characteristics of excitable girls of eighteen years of age. Nor is it without precedent that girls of such an age should leave a home where they are miserable, where they have been ill-treated, and that, not knowing the world, they should cast themselves unreservedly upon it. As it happens, Esther Lyons has not as yet particularly suffered from the injudicious step which she took; but it might have happened very differently. It is not the happy fortune of every runaway girl to find herself in morally good hands.

Having the advantage of writing upon this case after it has closed, we can take up the facts as we know they occurred. The prime fact, in this case, we take to be the motive of the girl in leaving home. She gave witness herself upon this point, and gave it evidently with great pain. She was under examination for several hours; and, although she broke down physically, nothing shook the truthfulness or the consistency of her evidence. She testified to gross ill-treatment upon the part of her mother; to numerous acts of cruelty; to beatings of various kinds, and to threats of the most serious nature. Crediting her evidence (and it was well supported) as we do, it is clear that the mother had virtually cancelled the relationship that existed between herself and her child; but, at the same time, it is not at all clear that the father supported the mother, or countenanced her acts; and, technically, the girl was the father's servant. If her mother had power or authority to continue the conduct which Esther Lyons swore had been used towards her, most unquestionably the girl was justified in leaving her home. Whether she had such authority is another question; but it is quite clear that the girl herself stood in terror of her, and would not do anything to place herself again under her mother's control.

Here we have clearly and openly proved a sufficient cause for leaving, and a determined will to leave. The will was exercised without any external interference, unless it be that of a girl named Sarah Carver, to whom she first went, and who took her to Mr. Thomas's house. Esther Lyons herself states that she wished to go to the house of Sarah Carver's aunt or mother, but Carver suggested Mrs. Thomas's. There accordingly they went. It is clearly established that Mrs. Thomas knew nothing of Esther before she came to the house. All testimony agrees upon that point. Morally, therefore, Esther was not "enticed" from home, for no one can be said to be enticed from a house where she has determined not to stay, nor to a house none of the inhabitants of which had the least previous knowledge of her, or had made any arrangements for her reception. But there may be want of judgment where there is no want of moral propriety. Mrs. Thomas listened to the tale that was told her; her sympathies were no doubt excited, and she consented to give the girl Lyons a lodging for one night. No harm in that, surely? Let us consider.

The best way to put the case at this point is to suggest other but hypothetical cases. Supposing that Esther Lyons had not been a Jewess? Supposing she had been brother's or sister's child to Mrs. Thomas? Supposing she had been the daughter of any member of Mr. Thomas's congregation? Supposing she had been the daughter of any Protestant Dissenting inhabitant of Cardiff?—would Mrs. Thomas have taken her in and done nothing more that night? Would she not, late though it was, have gone or sent round to the parents or to some friends of the parents? She must have

known that the absence of a girl of eighteen from her home would cause some agony of mind, at least, to the father or mother—perhaps more to the mother, under all circumstances, than to anybody. She must have known that, apparently justifiable although the step of the girl herself may have been, her way of taking it was not justifiable. If, we repeat, the girl had been the daughter of a member of her husband's congregation or any other Protestant family in Cardiff, would she have done what she did? We think not. Our opinion is that a feeling of romance, or something akin to it, blinded her judgment, and made her oblivious of a sense of natural and social duty.

The girl stayed, and was ultimately sent on from one house to another with the Thomases' connivance. She was at Cardiff, at London, in Germany. Expense was incurred by somebody on her behalf, which we believe would not have been incurred on behalf of any girl who was not a Jewess, leaving her home under such circumstances. She was kept out of the way; she wrote letters from fictitious places, there was suppression of truth in regard to knowledge of her movements; ultimately she became, as was natural, a Baptist, and was baptized. Sarah Carver even was sent away and instructed to change her name—that is, to tell a lie—and was written to by Mrs. Thomas, at least, under her assumed name. As for Mr. Thomas, he appears to have kept himself a little clearer of the affair, but no one can acquit him of great want of judgment and discretion. The reluctance of the girl to return home, and even her determination not to return, are no excuses for having left her parents without any knowledge of her welfare, and, as for the rest, minister or layman, converted or not converted, what is not human cannot be Christian, and all the apparent conversions in the world will not justify a departure from the most exact and open truth.

While, however, we write in this way, we profess ourselves to be utterly at a loss to understand the verdict of the Cardiff jury. Baron Channell laid down the law repeatedly, and if he laid it down correctly neither Mr. Thomas nor any one connected with him was guilty of enticing Esther Lyons from home. The verdict was in the face of all evidence. If the jury had found the defendants guilty upon the second count we could have understood it, but legally guilty upon the first the defendants clearly are not. They may have acted with great want of judgment, openness, and candour, and have laid themselves open to some moral reprobation, but of "enticing" they have not been guilty, and we should judge that the Court of Error will reverse the verdict that has been given. As for ourselves our judgment is that the less we hear of runaway Jewish converts in future the better.

THE NATIONAL SERVANT OF ALL WORK.

No public department under the direction or management of the State, if Lord Redesdale will permit us the use of that expression, has proved more popular, necessary or interesting in its operations and influence than that which has its ever-expanding headquarters in St. Martin's-le-Grand. The General Post Office has become the national servant of all work. There is no playing at business among its myriads of officials. All is downright, unmistakable hand and head labour. The youthful scions of aristocratic houses, who are generally so eager to secure snug berths under Government, and who haughtily affect to regard the upper clerkships at the War Office or the Admiralty as their natural perquisites, scornfully elevate their delicately-chiselled nasal organs at the mere idea of serving under the Postmaster-General. The great national letter receptacle is too remote from the favoured region of clubs and theatres, too far distant in the low, vulgar East to suit the convenience of dainty younger sons, whose leading ideas of official routine do not exactly coincide with those which have generally proved the basis of our industrial success. Consequently, the work of the General Post Office has fallen mainly into the hands of steady, industrious, plodding men, who have succeeded in rendering their department almost a model of its kind, a branch of State labour of unexceptional benefit to the whole nation. But the Post Office, as it now exists, was not the work of a day. Like our "venerable English Constitution," it has been a plant of slow growth, yet adapting itself with surprising facility to the requirements of each succeeding period. From the time when the English Government, in 1635, peremptorily issued its proclamation "for setting up of the Letter Office of England and Scotland"; up to the present, the history of the Post Office has been one of constant change and transformation. Nothing about it has remained permanent save its utility.

The posthorses gave way to mail-coaches, these became supplanted by railways, which, in their turn, may find themselves superseded by the electric telegraph. In this remarkable adaptability of the Post Office system to the varying exigencies of the time is to be traced much of its remarkable success. It has been less fettered by the antiquated spirit of red-tapeism than almost any other branch of the national service; although, when regarded merely as an instrument of taxation, rather than an institution for the public advantage, its machinery was not always worked in the most economical or useful manner; otherwise we should never have heard of the absurd system of franking, whereby a fine turkey or a couple of fat hares could be forwarded, "free, gratis, and for nothing," as a letter! But such anomalies have since become impossible. Cheap postage has put an end to the gigantic net-work of fraud and abuses which at one time threatened to seriously impair the efficiency of one of the few things managed by us better than is the case on the continent. The Post Office is no longer an aristocratic institution, having for its sole purpose the replenishing of empty ducal purses; its character has become essentially democratic, respecting neither rank nor persons; the correspondence of peers and commoners, of princes and beggars, being treated precisely alike, conveyed through the same channels and sometimes delivered by the same hands. No republican organism has proved a greater leveller of class distinctions, a more thorough promoter of social equality, than has the penny postage-stamp. That little piece of paper, so insignificant in appearance, has achieved a democratic triumph far greater than even the most sanguine of Republican philosophers could have ventured to dream of. It is no respecter of persons. It knows not individuals, it recognises only the people. Like our constitutional system, it may bear the impress of monarchy, but its action is wholly democratic. Already it has risen to the rank of an institution, and, like the vast organisation represented by it, is decidedly national, both in nature and spirit, its various stages of development reflecting most closely the social, industrial, and religious progress of the nation, and this to a degree unknown in any other establishment possessed by the people.

The statistical details of the Post Office are not less instructive or remarkable than is its history. Towards the middle of the seventeenth century the revenue of the Post Office is supposed scarcely to have exceeded 5,000*l.* a year. It was estimated at 10,000*l.* in 1653, and at 14,000*l.* in 1659; at 21,500*l.* in 1663, at which period it was settled on the Duke of York; in 1674, at 43,000*l.*; and in 1685 at 65,000*l.* This steady increase was maintained under almost every conceivable circumstance, adverse or otherwise. In 1724 the Post Office revenue was no less than 116,182*l.*; in 1784 it amounted to 196,513*l.*; in 1794 to 463,000*l.*; in 1804 to 952,893*l.*; in 1814 to 1,532,163*l.* Hence it remained stationary for several years, the gross revenue from 1815 to 1820 averaging 2,190,517*l.* per annum; and from 1832 to 1837, 2,261,424*l.* In 1838, the year preceding the introduction of the penny postage system, it was 2,346,298*l.* In 1840 it fell, in consequence of the increased cheapness of postage, to 1,342,604*l.* In 1868 it had risen to the astounding amount of 4,548,129*l.*, and this notwithstanding the unceasing reductions of postal charges. In fact, the cheaper the cost of postage, the more profitable it becomes to the carrying organisation; a circumstance which ought to have some weight with the Post Office authorities in their deliberations with respect to cheap ocean postage. In 1840, the first year of the penny postage, the number of letters passing weekly through the various post offices suddenly rose from 1,500,000 to 4,000,000, being at the rate of 200,000,000 per annum. In 1868, the latter had risen to 808,118,000; a more than fourfold increase in twenty-eight years, giving an average of 26 letters to each person, 149 to each house; or in England 30 letters to each person, in Scotland, 24 in Ireland 10. This vast increase of correspondence proves the great value of the penny postal system as an auxiliary in the diffusion of popular education, independent of the enormous facilities afforded by it for furthering the various industrial interests of the kingdom, thus showing the inestimable benefits accruing from a department of the State being managed with a view towards the conferring of special advantages upon the public rather than upon a class. It is a lesson which ought not to be lost upon our legislators. There can be no comparison more suggestive or instructive than that furnished by the influence of the Post Office when rendered a monopoly for the Duke of York, afterwards James II., or when regarded as a means of revenue for the granting of royal pensions; and that exercised by it at the present day, when it is conducted on the true Benthamite principle of the interests of the many

being of more importance than those of the few. If all other State departments were managed in a like manner, great indeed would be the national gain.

Everything which the Post Office takes under its charge appears to prosper. In 1839 the annual number of money orders issued in London was 40,000. In 1853 the number had risen to something like 700,000. The total number of money orders issued in England and Wales during the latter year was estimated at about 3,000,000, involving the circulation of about 7,000,000*l.* With the extension and cheapening of the system, the revenue of this branch has increased to a marvellous extent, the amount from all sources, in 1868, being no less than 19,079,162*l.* In 1867 it was yet higher, being 19,282,109*l.*, the decrease being occasioned by the Privy Council Office ceasing to use the money order system as a means of distributing educational grants. In other branches the same progress is perceptible, the Post Office, Pactus-like, changing into gold everything touched by it. The total number of book, newspaper, and pattern packets delivered by post in the United Kingdom in 1868 amounted to 105,845,000, an increase of 3.49 per cent. over the number in the previous years. The depositors in Post Office savings-bank at the end of the year 1868 were 965,154, an increase of 12.8 per cent. over the preceding year; 13.3 per cent. in England, 3.6 per cent. in Scotland, 8.7 per cent. in Ireland. The balance due to depositors, 11,666,665*l.*, showed an increase of 19.6 per cent.; 19.2 per cent. in England, 19.2 per cent. in Scotland, 33 per cent. in Ireland. The total number of depositors in Post Office savings-banks and the old savings-banks, 2,336,654, or one to every 13 persons, showed an increase of 97,307. The number of policies effected with the Government through the Post Office increased from 1,485 at the close of 1867 to 1,789 at the close of 1868. The amount insured from 111,437*l.* to 134,824*l.* The number of immediate annuities from 551 to 874; the amount from 12,393*l.* a year to 18,789*l.* The number of deferred annuities from 137 to 160; and the amount from 2,574*l.* to 2,971*l.* This may appear a formidable array of figures, but nothing else will suffice to indicate the vast character of our modern Post Office operations. Yet, as if their labours had not already attained sufficiently colossal proportions, the Post Office authorities must need take charge of the various electric telegraph lines. Whether their so doing will prove justified by the results, remains to be seen; but one cannot help suspecting that their attention would have been much more profitably bestowed in effecting those reforms which are so urgently required by the increasing business of the department over which they possess control. In these days of halfpenny papers, a halfpenny or even a farthing postage for printed matter ought not to be an impossibility, neither should it cost sixpence to send a letter to Melbourne or Sydney, or about as much to New York. Ocean penny postage ought no longer to be a dream but a reality. A halfpenny local postage is another requirement sorely needed. But these changes are certain to come. They may be postponed, but they are inevitable. How tremendously vast will then become the business operations of the Post Office. The statistics of the year 2000 will differ materially from those of 1869. The central Post Office will have risen to the dignity of a city, nay, a kingdom, in itself, unless, indeed, its dimensions should have previously grown, like Alexander's empire, too unwieldy to be managed as a whole. But we need not speculate respecting its future history. Whatever its ultimate destiny may be, the Post Office must always remain an institution of immense social value and importance, second only to the arts of writing and printing, and forming an indispensable auxiliary to the development of those principles of civil, religious, and political freedom, on which alone the true happiness of nations is based.

LORD BROUGHAM AND THE GREAT SEAL AT ROTHENMURCHUS.—At Rothenmurchus, then the residence of the Dowager-Duchess of Bedford, Lord Brougham, when Chancellor, found a large party of English ladies with whom he had romped so familiarly that to be revenged on him they stole the great seal, and hid it where neither he nor his attendants could discover it. This was rather a serious practical joke, for without the great seal the government is at a standstill. The great seal alone gives validity to the most important acts of the executive government, and every grant in the sovereign's name, bearing the impression of it is, in point of law, conclusively authentic. At last he was in such real distress about it that the ladies took compassion on him, and assured him it was in the drawing-room, and that he might find it blindfold, one of them assisting him by playing loudly on the piano when he approached it. He was blindfolded accordingly, and by the hints which the piano gave him he dragged the bauble in due time from a tea-chest.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

THE NEW REFORMS.

The *Senatus Consultum* submitted on Monday to the Senate proposes the following reforms:—The initiative of making laws is to rest with the Emperor and the Legislative Body. The Ministers are to depend only upon the Emperor, will deliberate in council under the presidency of his Majesty, will be responsible, but may only be impeached by the Senate. They may be Senators or Deputies, and will have the right of being present at the sittings of either Assembly. The sittings of the Senate will be public. The Senate will make its own Parliamentary regulations, may indicate any modification of which it may consider a law susceptible, and decide that such law be sent back for reconsideration by the Legislative Body, and may oppose the promulgation of a law by the adoption of a resolution to that effect, accompanied by a declaration of motives. The Legislative Body will make its own standing orders, and will appoint each session its president, vice-president, and secretaries. The Senate and Legislative Body will have the right of "interpellating" the Government, and may adopt orders of the day with preamble. Such orders of the day must be referred to the bureaux if required by the Government. No amendment can be discussed until it has been referred to committee and communicated to the Government. If the Government accepts it, the Legislative Body will then definitively pronounce upon it. The budget of expenditure will be voted by chapter. All modifications which may henceforth be made in the Customs tariffs in international treaties will only become obligatory on receiving the sanction of law. An Imperial decree will be issued, settling the relations between the Senate and Legislative Body, between the Council of State and the Emperor, and between the members of the Council of State.

At the meeting of the Senate on Monday M. Rouher, the President, delivered a speech, in which he said that the Senate had been convoked to examine important modifications of the constitution of the empire, which had been brought about by a fortunate understanding between the Government and the Legislative Body. No sovereign had followed the movement of public opinion more faithfully than the Emperor, who had always considered power as being the property of the nation. M. Rouher dwelt upon the continual movement which had been going on transforming an authoritative empire into a Liberal empire by the initiative of the Emperor himself, pointing, in support of this view, to the amnesty and the reforms of 1860, 1863, and 1867, the whole terminating to-day in a perfect equilibrium between the powers of the State, and a better distribution of their rights and privileges. Alluding to the impatience and regrets recently manifested, the President said:—

They are both equally unjust. To wish that France should remain at a standstill, while Liberal doctrines take possession of the whole of Europe, would be to disregard the necessary law of our influence throughout the world, and to weaken the sacred ties which unite the Napoleonic dynasty to the French nation; but to let oneself glide with indifference down a decline which leads to an abyss, would be to forget that France has a right to require from the Government absolute security against violent passions, mad wishes, and implacable hatred, for, in the words of Augustus, "The Empire is sufficiently popular to go hand in hand with liberty, and strong enough to preserve it from anarchy." (Applause.) The Senate will, therefore, approach the discussion of these constitutional reforms without experiencing a misplaced timidity, and, at the same time, without yielding to thoughtless impulse; but with the firm intention of interpreting and consecrating the will of the country. The combined efforts of the Government and of the Senate will establish a more genuine harmony and a more fruitful solidarity between the powers of the State and the institutions of the Empire, and will give them renewed strength, lustre, and popularity.

M. Rouher afterwards expressed regret at the death of M. Troplong, late President of the Senate, and of several other members of the Upper Chamber, and the *Senatus Consultum* was then read.

The Empress Eugenie is expected at Constantinople towards the end of September, and she will occupy the Sultan's palace of Beylerbey, on the Asiatic bank of the Bosphorus, now being fitted up for her. Advice from the Turkish capital state that in consequence of this Imperial visit a street from the landing-place at Tophané to the French Embassy is to be specially widened for her Majesty's convenience. The roads in the environs of Constantinople are also to be improved.

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* expresses great satisfaction at the result of the debate in the House of Commons the other day on Central Asia. It says that "the British nation has perceived that there is now no country in the world which does not approve of its rule in India, and regard it as a pledge of civilisation"; and that "no human being could think of placing the smallest obstacle in the way of its consolidation, still less of attacking or threatening it." As to the advance of Russia in Central Asia, the Russian paper observes that her action in that country is the consequence of a "mission" similar to that of England in India, and points out that England has now "become less distrustful" of Russian policy in that quarter. "England has seen the progress of Russia without anxiety, and has recognised its necessity; she looks upon its object with calmness and impartiality. . . . The head of the English Cabinet

has now asserted, in a speech whose wisdom and importance must be valued by the whole world, the thorough understanding which exists between England and Russia, even in those districts of Central Asia which still constitute a material barrier between them, but have ceased to cause a moral separation or to be an arena of conflict and antagonism."

AMERICA.

A coloured State educational convention met at Louisville on the 14th inst., at which nearly every county in the State was represented. The attitude of the people of Kentucky towards the coloured people was denounced in very severe terms.

The following extract from a letter written by an experienced New York merchant to a friend in Warwickshire has been handed to us for publication:—

Goldwin Smith has not lived long enough in this country to understand us, and thus by his published statements has misrepresented us and sounded alarm very needlessly. We are more given to "bancombe," and yet are more actuated by common sense, if by no higher motives, than he seems to have any idea of. Look at our debt v. taxes; then look at the political (if not social) relations between North and South, and then you must surely agree with me that we are in no condition to enter upon a war with England because she flatly refuses to entertain such humiliating and preposterous pretensions as Sumner "suggests." Perhaps the settlement of our claims may be found the more difficult and more tardy because of the action of the Senate and that speech, yet I have not the least doubt that we shall, in due time, arrive at a peaceful settlement satisfactory to both parties, just as in a variety of other difficulties between us that have so ended, and that you may readily remember.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Imperial Ottoman Bank has nearly completed its negotiations for the issue of a loan of 20,000,000*l.* sterling.

The *Times of India* mentions that on the 29th of June a telegram was published in the Bombay papers which had come through from New York in twenty-four hours.

According to the *Imparcial*, the Spanish Government is about to confer on Mr. Gladstone, "as a mark of the regard of free Spain," the Order of the Golden Fleece.

Official letters state that all the dockyard emigrants sent out to Canada have behaved well; the arrangements have answered perfectly. Hitherto no difficulty has been experienced in obtaining employment.

It is stated in the Italian papers that great progress is making with the Mont Cenis Tunnel, the works being actively carried on night and day, and that there is every probability the line will be opened in the course of next year.

The marriage of the Crown Prince of Denmark with the daughter of the King of Sweden, took place at Stockholm on Wednesday. An immense number of persons were present at the festivities, which took place amid great rejoicings.

The Chinese Labour Convention has resulted in the formation of a Mississippi Valley Emigration Company, with a capital of one million dollars, and active steps are being taken to carry out the scheme suggested by the convention.

Another American railway accident is reported. It occurred on the Memphis and Ohio Railroad, near Clarksville, Tennessee, on Wednesday. A passenger train fell through a bridge, and all the cars but one were burnt. Six persons were killed and thirty wounded.

FRENCH NATIONAL EXPENDITURE.—In 1860 the expenditure of the Government amounted to not quite 1,600,000,000 francs (about 60,000,000*l.* sterling). It now amounts to nearly 2,400,000,000 francs (or about 96,000,000*l.* sterling). It has been increased in seventeen years by 900,000,000 francs (or 36,000,000*l.* sterling).

AN ARMY OF PRIESTS.—The ecclesiastical authorities of Rome have just published a census for the present year. These statistics show that the regular clergy is composed of 2,265 persons, thus divided:—

Cardinals, 32; bishops, 26; priests and clerks, 1,366; and students at the ecclesiastical colleges, 841. The religious communities count 6,215 souls, 2,959 men, and 2,256 women. The lay population amounts to 197,198; soldiers in garrison, 10,207; prisoners under sentence, 328; Protestants, 637; and Jews, 2,682; making a total of 220,532, or an increase of 3,154 over the year 1868.

THE PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA.—The "Haj" has been far more frequented this year than during the last few seasons. About 120,000 pilgrims are said to have thronged Mecca, but the sanitary precautions of the Turkish officials were successful in preventing any outbreak of disease. The ceremonies were concluded by the slaughter of 200,000 sheep, 5,000 oxen, and 2,000 heifers—a goodly hecatomb. The flesh is consumed on huge wooden pyres. Before the International Sanitary Commission turned its attention to Mecca, the piles of flesh were allowed to slowly decompose under a heat of forty deg. Reaumur, a most fruitful generator of cholera. All the arrangements at Jeddah for the embarkation of the returning pilgrims were carried out with the most perfect order.

The French Atlantic Cable was completed to Duxbury, in Massachusetts, on Wednesday. The Governor and Mayor and leading men of Boston were present. The first message through the completed telegraph was sent by the Emperor Napoleon to the President of the United States, and was as follows:—"I rejoice to inaugurate the new telegraphic line which binds France to America, by sending you the expression of my good wishes for yourself and the prosperity of the United States." The Governor of Massachusetts has forwarded a

congratulatory telegram to the French Atlantic Cable Company on the success of the undertaking. It is announced in the Paris papers that the French Atlantic Cable will be open to the public for the transmission of despatches on the 15th inst. The rate is to be forty francs for ten words and four francs for each additional word. Numbers may be expressed by figures, and, in accordance with the dispositions of the Vienna Telegraphic Convention, five figures will count as one word.

THE POPE AND THE FRENCH GARRISON.—The Pope lately gave audience to several Zouaves, who are going to France on furlough, and who came to assure his Holiness they would return to their corps at the first call. The Holy Father bade them go in peace, and make themselves happy in France, as no danger threatened the Holy See. This confidence has been inspired by a despatch to Cardinal Antonelli from Monsignor Chigi, stating that he was authorised by the Emperor of the French, at their last interview, to declare that up to this moment no thought had been entertained of withdrawing the corps of occupation. Colonel de Charette affirms that he received the same assurance from three "very great personages" in Paris. Certainly the expectation of recall has died away at Civita Vecchia, and the French have just renewed their contracts for supplies. The confidence of the Vatican is strengthened by the appointment of Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne and Count Armand to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris, and the Pope rejoices that he has now two friends at Court.—*Letter in the Pall Mall Gazette.*

BREAKING DOWN OF CASTE IN INDIA.—The Brahmins are prohibited, under pain of the forfeiture of every social privilege which they hold dear, from crossing the sea, which they therefore, not without reason, designate *kala pasanes*, or "black water." According to the *Times of India*, only six Brahmins of the highest caste have ventured upon this experiment, and they have paid the penalty of the Hindoo law. Time, however, works wonders, and the Brahmins are beginning to discover that there is a good deal of absurdity in their superstitious horror of the melancholy ocean. Mr. Moljee Thackersey visited England several years ago, and on his return to India he soon learnt to his cost that he had been expelled from his caste. But Mr. Thackersey did not fling himself under the wheels of Juggernaut, or even retire into solitude. He simply exercised faith in his own rectitude, and in the ultimate common sense of his countrymen. The result is that he has revisited this country, accompanied by six or eight of his brethren of the strictest sect of Brahmins. But this is not at all. When Mr. Thackersey and his companions went on board the steamer they were cheered by hundreds of "castemen," who have learnt the folly of superstition, and its incompatibility with the superior claims of modern civilisation. Another fact which is in its way equally significant is that two native ladies have applied for admission into the entrance examination of the University of Calcutta. We hope that they may succeed in their laudable attempt to distinguish themselves in a field of intellectual labour quite new to the inmates of the zenana. It is clear, from many facts which are now transpiring, that Hindooism is passing into that stage in which reformers, if they are courageous and enlightened enough, will find their work comparatively easy.—*Morning Star.*

THE IMPRISONED NUN IN THE CRACOW CONVENT.

The case of the imprisoned nun at Cracow, which led to the recent riots there, forms the subject of an article in the *Vienna Press*, from which we learn that the name of the prisoner is Barbara Ubryk, and that the statement that she had been confined for twenty-one years is correct. The civil authorities were informed of the fact by an anonymous letter in a woman's handwriting, and the bishop of the diocese was communicated with. A judge visited the convent and found in a cell, seven paces long by six wide, an entirely naked half-insane woman, who, at the unaccustomed view of light, the outer world, and human beings, folded her hands and pitifully implored: "I am hungry, have pity on me; give me meat, and I shall be obedient." This hole, for it could hardly be called a chamber, besides containing all kinds of dirt and filth, and a dish with rotten potatoes, was deficient of the slightest decent accommodation. There was nothing—no stove, no bed, no table, no chair—it was neither warmed by a fire nor by the rays of the sun. The judge instantly ordered the nun to be clothed, and went himself for Bishop Galecki. The bishop was deeply moved, and, turning to the assembled nuns, he vehemently reproached them for their inhumanity. "Is this," he said, "what you call love of your neighbour? Furies, not women, that you are, is it thus that you purpose to enter the kingdom of Heaven?" The nuns ventured to excuse their conduct, but the bishop would not hear them. "Silence, you wretches!" he exclaimed; "away, out of my sight, you who disgrace religion." The father confessor, Lewkowicz, an old priest, who was present, dared to observe that the ecclesiastical authorities were aware of this scandal, whereupon the bishop and Prelate Spital denied his assertion, and at once suspended the father confessor, and also the superioress, who is descended from an old honourable Polish noble family. The bishop ordered Nun Barbara Ubryk to be brought into a clean cell, and there to be dressed and nursed, which the lady superior obeyed very reluctantly. When the unhappy nun was led away, she asked anxiously whether she would be brought back to her grave, and when asked why she had been imprisoned, she answered, "I have broken the vow of chastity, but," pointing with a fearfully wild gesture, and in great excitement, to the sisters, "they are not angels." The lady superior declared that Barbara Ubryk was

kept in close confinement since 1848 by order of the physician because of her unsound mind. But this physician died in 1848, and the present physician, Dr. Babinski, who had been practising in the convent for the last seven years, has never seen Barbara Ubryk. On account of the importance of the case, the Attorney-General has taken the matter in hand. The *Cass of Cracow* announces the sudden death of the confessor of the Carmelite nunnery, the principal witness in the affair of Barbara Ubryk, by whom indirectly the barbarous imprisonment of the nun was revealed. This man, who is called Father Lewkowicz, lately visited the parish priest of Trzebinia, in a state of intoxication, and betrayed the secret. The priest, who is a very worthy man, made it immediately known to a cousin of his own in Cracow, and the latter wrote the anonymous letter to the Minister of Justice. The excitement of the people is still so great that the authorities have found it necessary to protect all the convents of the town by giving each of them a military guard. The lady superior has been arrested, as well as her predecessor, who was living in another convent.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Princess Louise, on behalf of her Majesty, on Wednesday laid the foundation-stone of the second pair of buildings for the Consumption Hospital at Ventnor. There was a numerous and distinguished gathering at the ceremony. To the address presented to her on the occasion, her Royal Highness replied:—

"The Queen, my dear mother, on whose behalf I appear among you, feels a deep interest in this admirable charity, and sympathises with the effort you are making to extend its benefits. It has ever been the desire of her Majesty's heart (and every member of her family shares it) to promote every enterprise for the relief of her suffering subjects. The special diseases for which the hospital is designed are those for which art can do least, and nature most. May God, therefore, grant that the pure and health-giving climate of this beautiful district be blessed to the restoration of all who shall be admitted to the shelter of this noble institution."

The Prince and Princess of Wales reached Brussels on Wednesday morning, on their way to Wildbad. They were received at the railway-station by the King, who conducted them to the palace, where a grand banquet was given in their honour in the evening. Wildbad (says the *Leicester*) has a certain reputation in joint affections, derived probably from the temperature rather than the chemical constitution of its waters; and advantage will be taken of the local means of treatment in the case of her Royal Highness, who is still somewhat inconvenienced by the absence of perfect power of flexion.

The Queen has commanded Mr. Woodward, the Royal Librarian, to edit a series of exterior and interior views of Windsor Castle, together with descriptive text. These views, which will include several of the private apartments, are from photographs printed in permanent colours by a new process. The volume promises to be the most splendid of the series issued under her Majesty's auspices, and will be published by Messrs. Moxon, Son, and Co.

Mr. Charles Dickens is improved in health, and will give his final public readings early next year.

Dr. Norman McLeod is gazetted Dean of the Order of the Thistle and Dean of the Chapel Royal in Scotland.

The honour of knighthood has been conferred upon Mr. James Cockle, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland.

The Ministerial whitehall dinner will for this year be in abeyance on account of the Prime Minister's indisposition.

It is said that eight or ten peers are to be created early in the recess.

The *London Scotsman* says that the health of Mr. George Macdonald has considerably improved. His recovery has been rapid since he went to Buxton, and he is now able to walk about, as well as to resume in a limited measure his literary avocations.

The committee appointed by the House of Commons to consider and report on the question of site for the new Law Courts, has decided in favour of the Carey-street site, by a majority of two, Lord Stanley, the chairman, not voting.

Mr. J. Benjamin has been made a Q.C. for the County Palatine of Lancaster. This gentleman was a member of Mr. Jefferson Davis's Government. On the capitulation of General Lee he sought refuge in England, and was called to the Bar some three years ago.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday afternoon at Mr. Gladstone's residence.

After the prorogation of Parliament Mr. Gladstone and his family go to Walmer Castle to pass a few weeks.

The Marquises of Lansdowne and Blandford are engaged to be married to daughters of the Duke of Abercorn.

It is stated that Mr. Edmond Beales, M.A., has been promised the first county court judgeship that may become vacant.

General Sabine, the President of the Royal Society, and Mr. Panizzi, whose name has for so many years been identified with the British Museum, have been made K.C.B.'s.

The capital sentence passed upon Fanny Oliver, for the murder of her husband, has been commuted by the Home Secretary to one of penal servitude for life, on the recommendation of Baron Pigott, who tried the prisoner.

The sentence of death passed upon William Murray, for the murder of Frederick Redrup, has

also been commuted by the Home Secretary to one of penal servitude for life, on the express recommendation of Lord Chief Justice Bovill, who tried the prisoner.

The Duke of Argyll, on the representation of the Cotton Supply Association, has undertaken to push forward railways into the Indian cotton districts, and to organise agricultural instructors who, in conjunction with the collectors of districts, will, besides their duty in promoting the best methods of agriculture, obtain statistics relative to cereal and textile produce.

There was a review at Woolwich on Saturday, followed by a banquet in the evening, on the occasion of Prince Arthur leaving the garrison for the purpose of proceeding to Canada. His Royal Highness was entertained in the Artillery mess room, the Duke of Cambridge presiding. The Commander-in-Chief, in proposing the toast of the evening, stated that Prince Arthur, having served in the Corps of Engineers at Chatham and with the Royal Artillery at Woolwich, was now going to Canada to join the Rifle Brigade. Prince Arthur, in replying, expressed his thanks for the unvarying kindness he had received during his sojourn at Woolwich, and assured his hearers that he should carry to his new sphere of duty the most pleasing recollections of his stay in that garrison.

THE GROWING CROPS.

We have travelled over a wide extent of country (says the *Chamber of Agriculture Journal*), and our impression of the wheat crop is of a gloomy character. Upon inferior or ill-managed clays the crop is a poor one—a very poor one: there is an absence of plant. Upon gravel and light soils there is more straw, but the want of rain has seriously damaged the crop, and appearances are against an average yield. There are signs of premature ripening, and occasionally a field is passed denoting blight. On both these varieties of soil the sample will be uneven, the quality inferior, and the yield short. On the richest and best managed lands the crops manifest an unusual variety. There is here and there a good crop, and healthy in appearance, but these are the exception; the great bulk of these better-land crops are very indifferent, many are very thin in plant, others are not only thin in plant, but much storm-broken; others are root-fallen, some irrecoverably fallen, and the straw decaying. The green fly is doing damage in some districts. The great deciding point now depends upon the weather of the harvest season. If favourable—if the weather is quiet, free from storms, and sunny—the difference in yield will be considerable. The storm-broken and root-fallen, or rather the partially fallen or "kinked," will derive great benefit by a more plump filling of the grain or berry as some term it. If the weather or harvest season is decidedly unfavourable, there cannot be an average yield. The fenny districts of the kingdom are likely to produce crops above the average. Harvest has commenced in several districts of the country, and will be general about the middle of August.

Upon the good lands of Norfolk it is now expected that there will be an average yield of wheat, but upon the light lands of the county the yield will be small; upon the poor wet soils there is also a probability of a moderate crop. Notwithstanding this state of affairs, the wheat crop of Norfolk may be said to have materially improved during the last month or six weeks.

The weather continues to be extremely favourable to the prospects of the harvest in the north-eastern counties. In Northumberland and Durham the corn crops are maturing rapidly, and the fine warm showers that have fallen recently have made a wonderful improvement in the turnip crops. There is every prospect of a plentiful yield of all kinds of agricultural produce in the northern counties.

With respect to the harvest in Ireland, the accounts received from different parts of the country are highly encouraging. The injurious effects of long-continued drought have been removed, or at least greatly mitigated, by copious rain during the past week, and the farmers rejoice at the beneficial change. The wheat and oat crops look healthy, and promise an abundant yield. It was feared the latter would be very stunted, and that straw would be very scarce, but a fresh impulse has been given to vegetation by the refreshing showers, and the crop has sensibly improved in length and fulness. Turnips are also looking better. The potato crop is sound, and the hay harvest is saved in good condition.

Miscellaneous News.

HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE HEART, NEW-MAN-STREET, OXFORD-STREET.—The number of patients relieved during the week was 99.

THE REPUDIATED ACCOUNTS AT THE BRADFORD ELECTION.—We understand that the repudiated accounts of publicans and beersellers, incurred during the candidature of Mr. H. W. Ripley, when he contested Bradford, which were submitted to arbitration, have all been settled with the exception of one or two persons who would not submit to this course in regard to their claims.—*Leeds Mercury*.

THE FENIAN PRISONERS.—A demonstration took place in Limerick on Sunday in favour of the release of the Fenian prisoners. Twenty thousand persons from Clare, Limerick, and Tipperary, including the organised trades, assembled at the appointed place, and proceeded through the city with banners and bands. An open-air meeting was sub-

sequently held, which adopted a letter to Mr. Gladstone, demanding the release of the prisoners in the name of the Irish people. The proceedings were enthusiastic but moderate.

TEMPERANCE PRIZE TALES.—The United Kingdom Band of Hope Union recently offered two prizes of 100*l.* and 50*l.* for the two best temperance tales for the young. Eighty-six manuscripts were forwarded for the competition. The adjudicators have just decided that "Frank Oldfield," written by the Rev. T. P. Wilson, of Shrewsbury, is entitled to the first, and "Tim's Troubles," written by Miss A. Paul, of Plymouth, is entitled to the second prize.

AT LAST.—We are at length to have a statue of Oliver Cromwell. At a meeting of the Manchester General Purposes Committee of the City Council on Thursday, a letter was read from Mr. Noble, the eminent sculptor, stating, that some time ago he received a commission to execute a large statue of Cromwell, the condition being that the Corporation of Manchester should find a suitable site for it—inside the new Town-hall being preferred. The Town Clerk was authorised to assure Mr. Noble that the council would gladly find a site for the statue in the Town-hall.

THE CHARGE OF PERJURY AGAINST MR. MURRAY.—The Grenville-Murray perjury case has ended for the present in a somewhat equivocal manner. At a previous hearing, it will be recollected, Mr. Knox, the magistrate, considered the case against Mr. Murray so far made out that he required him to enter into recognisances and find heavy sureties for his reappearance. In the interim it seems that Mr. Murray has gone to Paris, and on Thursday, when the case should have resumed, a telegram was produced stating that he had been suddenly taken ill, and was unable to put in an appearance. Mr. Knox appears to have considered this excuse anything but satisfactory, for he refused to adjourn the case, and said he should forfeit the sureties, return the recognisances to the sessions, and issue a warrant for the apprehension of Mr. Murray as soon as he made his appearance this side the Channel.

WORKING MEN'S CLUBS.—A proposal is now being circulated for the promotion of clubs and institutes for the industrial classes, through the agency of the Rev. H. Solly, recommended and supported by Lord Lyttelton, Lord Ebury, Professor F. D. Maurice, M.A.; Mr. T. Hughes, Q.C., M.P.; Mr. John Abel Smith, &c. It is intended that Mr. Solly should resume his services to the cause by aiding wherever invited, in the formation of new clubs and promoting the progress of existing ones, labouring on an independent footing, but as far as possible in co-operation with the society of which he was formerly secretary. It will be part of Mr. Solly's plan to edit a monthly magazine in connection with the movement. Contributions in aid of the scheme will be received at the London and Westminster Bank, Strand.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD AND THE ST. PANCRAS GUARDIANS.—A day or two ago the St. Pancras Guardians determined to try a fall with the Poor-law Board, and declined to obey an order they had received desiring them to reinstate the master of their workhouse, Mr. Blake, who had been suspended. The result is that the Poor-law Board has virtually disestablished the guardians by depriving them of the power of suspending any officer during the remainder of their term of office, that is to say, between the present time and April 17, 1870; and also by ordering Mr. Blake to resume his duties. The ukase by which this has been done was read at a meeting of the guardians on Thursday.

THE WOMEN OF HULL AND MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—In his address to an open-air meeting at Hull, in celebration of the return of himself and Mr. Norwood, Mr. Clay, alluding to the bill for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister, remarked:—"I do not know that ever I had an opportunity before, and I may not have an opportunity again, of consulting, on this subject, so many ladies as I now see present; and I wish I could get the ladies for a moment to imagine that there were no gentlemen present, and that this was a confidential interview between myself and them, and that, without asking the opinion of the gentlemen, they would, by a show of hands, give me their own opinion. This may sound like a joke, but I really am in earnest about it, and I will promise the ladies here, if they show me a great majority of opinion either one way or the other, that by that opinion I will be guided. Therefore, understand me, when I ask you for the show of hands, I ask as a favour that no gentleman will hold up his hand either way. I wish to see nobody's hands but the ladies. Now, if this is thoroughly understood, I shall ask the gentlemen to remain perfectly neutral, and take the show of hands from the ladies alone. Now, those ladies who think that it should be lawful for a man to marry his deceased wife's sister will be kind enough to hold up their hands. (Here the ladies held up theirs in an almost unanimous manner.) Those who consider that it ought not to be lawful for a man to marry his deceased wife's sister will now hold up their hands. (Only one or two hands were for this held up.) I am very happy to find you are in an immense majority of my way of thinking, and, under the circumstances, I shall not trouble my head as to what the gentlemen may say. I should perhaps have told you, to strengthen your belief in the correctness of your opinion, that Lord Palmerston was greatly in favour of this measure, but he gave for it a somewhat singular reason. He said he was in favour of marriage with a deceased wife's sister, because, under that change of the law, a man might have two wives and only one mother-in-law." (Laughter and applause.)

Literature.

JUVENTUS MUNDI.*

Is the world growing old? We know a merry ancient lady who stoutly maintains that one is just as old as one feels—a common-sense doctrine, for surely youth or age is not a mere matter of slavish arithmetical measurement, but of redundancy or poverty, elasticity or stiffness in the elements of life. And if so, the book before us affords one argument at least against the idea that the age of humanity is falling into the sere and yellow leaf. For while society can produce statesmen of mental energy and activity so exhaustless that the occupations of their occasional leisure take a form like this, and while those qualities are accompanied by an enthusiasm such as that which animates every page of this book, we can hardly feel as though the period of "Juventus Mundi" were entirely over and gone. At any rate, we are led to apply to the race the words of the poet concerning the individual man:—

"O joy, that in our embers
Is something that doth live,
That Nature still remembers
What was so fugitive!"

The preface informs us that the work "is mainly the produce of the two recesses of 1867 and 1868." It is true that it is mainly a *resumé* of the results arrived at, after a more fully exhibited process of research, in the "Studies on Homer and the Homeric Age, 1858." But those results are here and there modified in a manner which involves a continuance of the most careful and conscientious study. Their compression into the present form is itself a wonderful effort. There is hardly a page which is not pregnant with details representing endless work. And really we rise from a perusal of the book, with some sympathy for the noble lord, who, in a recent debate on a far grander effort of the same exhaustless genius, exclaimed, "In the labyrinths of that mind I am lost."

While, however, we could not repress some exclamation of wonder at the unwearied energy of brain which enables the greatest statesman of the age, amidst his anxious labours for the nation, to indulge in literary *relaxations* such as are here betokened, it would be unworthy of so illustrious a scholar, were we to criticise the work itself with any reference to the circumstances under which it has been composed. The book is certainly not intended to be an exhibition of the mental resources of the author, but is offered as a contribution towards a more general and thorough appreciation of Homer's place in the history of the world, and only by its fulfilment of this aim are we to judge it. There is no doubt that it is full of ingenious suggestions. Here and there we obtain some new and profound glimpses into the original relations of the elements out of which the historical Hellenic States were developed. The observations on the Ethics of the Heroic Age are beautiful, and though coloured by enthusiasm, in the main judicious; and probably true. Of the sketches of character we have only to complain that they are too few and brief. They show all the insight which commonly accompanies ardent love of a subject, and short as they are, will, to many an unlearned reader whom Mr. Gladstone's name may induce to take up the book, be the most attractive portion of its pages. To such readers however, and perhaps to others also unsustained by the special enthusiasm which animates the writer, the disquisitions on the Olympian religion may prove a little tedious. We cannot think Mr. Gladstone happy in his favourite speculation on the theological significance of Apollo and Athene as a vestige of some primeval tradition of a Logos. On the whole the pages are so burdened with laborious detail that even scholars must find them difficult reading. And we must confess we miss that sweep of presiding purpose, that unifying vigour of conception, which is so characteristic of our illustrious author in the higher and greater labours of his life. The book feels like a handful of powdery snow on a frosty day, full of innumerable minute crystals of beauty, but incapable of compression into a solid whole.

We propose to give a brief account of the principal contents of the book, illustrated by characteristic extracts; adding occasionally a few words of our own on the most important points that are raised.

In the introduction, Mr. Gladstone re-affirms in effect his already well-known views on the unity of authorship and general integrity of text of the two great Homeric poems. He

also insists on their historical value to a certain extent, "with respect to the chief events and persons." His reasons for the latter position are mainly the following, in his own words (pp. 7, 8).

"1. It is the chief business of the poet or bard, as such, in early times to record facts, while he records them in the forms of beauty supplied by his art. 2. Especially of the bard who lives near the events of which he professes to sing. 3. It is plain that Homer so viewed the poet's office, from the nature of the lays which he introduces, from his representing to us Achilles engaged in singing the deeds of heroes; and from his saying that the gods ordained the war of Troy that it might be sung to all posterity, with other like sentiments. 4. The poems were always viewed as historical by the Greeks. 5. If fictitious in their basis, they would have been far less likely to acquire and maintain such commanding interest. 6. The structure and tenor of the poems throughout indicate the highest regard to national tastes and prepossessions; and these tastes were manifestly very strong as to all matters of tradition and hereditary fame. Of this we have an indication which may be taken by way of example in the question usually put to a stranger—who are his parents? 7. The number and the remarkable self-consistency of the genealogies given in the poems, appear almost of themselves to prove an historic design. 8. The catalogue in the second 'Iliad' implies a purpose with reference to the nation, much the same as that indicated by the genealogies with respect to particular persons or families. 9. The Aristeia of the greater chiefs respectively in the intermediate books of the Iliad, are thought to lead the movement of the poem; but they receive a natural and simple explanation from the tendency of a poet at once itinerant and historical to distribute carefully the honours of the war between the different states and heroes."

The last reason here quoted has perhaps a more intelligible bearing on the unity of authorship as concerns the "Iliad," than on the *historical* value of the poem. And with regard to the other reasons, we venture to suggest that in the consciousness of the Homeric times, the distinction between the "Saga" and history did not exist. Still those reasons may be taken as suggesting a view, not here expressed, on the origin and growth of the "Saga," in which we should be disposed to agree, and which is amply sustained by Ewald's profound remarks on the subject in the first volume of his great work. The "Saga" may have—perhaps generally has—its roots in reality; and if this is all that is meant by the historical value of Homer, there are few who can disagree with Mr. Gladstone except those wild theorists who resolve the whole Trojan war into the daily victory of the Dawn over the powers of Night. But fancy, wonder, pride of race, and caprice of memory play such tricks with the original germs of the Saga, that it is hardly safe to conclude that, however much he intended it, Homer must needs be historical even with regard to "the chief persons and events." All that can be said, perhaps, is that whatever broad facts concerning heroic Greece are manifestly involved in the actual surroundings of the poet and the condition of his own times as reflected in his verse, may be accepted as the shadowy beginnings of history.

Of this position we have some illustration in the second chapter, which is devoted to the consideration of "The Three Great Appellations," viz., Danaoi, Argeioi, and Achæoi. Referring the name Argos to the same root as *ergon* (the middle consonants being easily transposed), and associating it with agricultural work (compare *agron*, *agrum*, *agrios*, *agrestis*, &c.), Mr. Gladstone observes that the name Argos was probably given to places in the lowlands fitted for farming operations. The epithet Argeioi was then applied to the people dwelling about such spots, and so was gradually extended to the whole settled population. Thus the name is generally employed in the poems to signify the whole body of the Greeks in their popular aspect. Danaoi, on the other hand, he traces to a warlike invader of Phœnician origin, who, about two centuries before the war, founded a dynasty among the primitive or Pelasgian population. And thus he accounts for it that the name is applied to the people in their heroic aspect as a race of warriors. The name Achæoi he traces to the predominance of a tribe which rose with the family of Pelops, and attained its greatest influence at the time of the war. Hence he finds this name peculiarly significant of the chiefs or aristocracy, or to use his own words, "the people regarded through the governing 'class.'" This last phrase may have the appearance of over-subtlety; but a comparison of the use of *laos*, where the common rank and file are directly referred to, will show that this is a just distinction. Thus in the first few lines of the Iliad, where the ravages of pestilence amongst the nameless multitude are to be described, we have "*δακοντο δὲ λαοί*," where Achæoi would have suited the metre just as well. But where the Greeks are the objects of supplication through their leaders we have "*δακοντο δὲ λαοὶ Ἀχαιοί*." The following passage is here worth quoting (p. 70):—

"This class, and the race that formed it, appear to me to be entitled to a more separate and concentrated

attention than it has yet received in the investigation of Greek history. It forms a distinct type of Hellenic character, the earliest in time, and certainly not the least remarkable in grandeur or in completeness. The Greek of Homer is neither the man of Athens, nor the man of Sparta; he is neither east in the Dorian nor in the Ionian pattern; he is the Achæian Greek. Simple, and yet shrewd; passionate, and yet self-contained; brave in battle, and gentle in converse; keenly living in the present, yet with a 'large discourse' over the future and the past; as he is in body, 'full-limbed and tall,' so is he in mind towering and full formed; and, disregarding what I conceive to have been the fragments of the first renaissance after the wild and rude Dorian revolution, I set down Homer himself as the Achæian painter of his own kith and kin."

It will be perceived from this extract that Mr. Gladstone entirely discredits the usual tradition that Homer was an Asiatic Greek.

The difficult subject of the Pelasgians is treated with great thoroughness, but the limits of our space warn us that we must rapidly pass onwards. The view followed is substantially that of Niebuhr, that the Pelasgian race in early times covered nearly the whole of the south-eastern extremities of Europe from the Po and the Arno to the Bosphorus. But Mr. Gladstone goes beyond this, for he carries them into Asia, and, with great probability as we think, includes amongst them the Trojans. They would thus be to the classic lands what the Saxons have been to England, the foundation people, so to speak, on which specially gifted tribes, such as Normans, or Danes, Danaoi and Helioi raised up their own superior dominion. This is well illustrated by lists of words showing that the vocabulary common to Romans and Greeks ranges mainly over objects of nature, food, and labour, together with the commonest and most universal ideas, while the words relating to war are widely and almost uniformly different. This of course is precisely the phenomenon we should expect on the above hypothesis of a wide-spread inferior race, brought here and there under the supremacy of diverse invading tribes.

In the chapter on the Phœnicians and the Egyptians, Mr. Gladstone has developed his views considerably, having since the publication of his former work devoted his attention specially to the bearing of the most recent investigations in Egyptology on his favourite subject. We quote from this chapter the concluding passage, containing a somewhat startling theory, on which we shall prudently abstain from venturing a judgment. (P. 147.)

"Here I may venture conjecturally on the following observations:—The Egyptian history of the maritime conquests of Thothmes III., if we are allowed the almost inevitable assumption that the nautical instrument for creating the supremacy was Phœnician, reads like an account, in other words, of what Thucydides has slightly but firmly sketched from general tradition, and what we are enabled to gather with a considerable amount of proof from Homer, respecting the empire of Minos in Crete, Archipelago, and on the continent of Greece."

"But the empire by sea soon vanished, while the empire by land, extending, it appears, into Asia Minor continued, though in varying phases, to subsist. There is at least one indication gathered from Homer and the general tradition jointly, which would lead to the conclusion that the war of Troy took place after the fall of the first, but before the disappearance of the second, portion of the Egyptian power. The poems are altogether opposed to any idea that a maritime Egyptian empire still existed. Crete, apparently its old headquarters, was not at the Troic period the centre of prevailing power that it had been before. But Memnon was among the allies of Troy, and all tradition reports that Memnon was Egyptian. It may, perhaps, be worth noting that the Memnon of Homer is gifted with the highest personal beauty, and that this honour would not have been awarded by the poet, who above all things admired the lighter hair and complexion, to the swarthy, nay tawny, natives of the Egypt of our geography. Is it not also highly improbable that Priam, whose list of allies in the catalogue stops at Lycia and Caria, should have been able to draw an auxiliary force from so great a distance? But if the political Egypt, the Egyptian supremacy or empire of that day, reached as far as Armenia or Asia Minor, the difficulty disappears at once; from such a region Memnon might have come, and the account of Homer, together with the later tradition, becomes natural and intelligible."

"In the year 1811 B.C., which is considered as a date astronomically ascertained, Rhamses III., the last great military monarch of Egypt, came to the throne. Mesopotamia, however, was under Egyptian rule as late as 1150 B.C."

"The time may be at hand when, from further investigations, it will be possible to define with greater precision, those periods of the Egyptian chronology to which the Homeric poems and their subject thus appear to be related."

"In the meantime it may be reasonably pointed out that the discoveries already made tend to show that those inquirers have not been wrong who have assigned the greatest measure of antiquity and of historical character to the works of Homer."

The chapters on the Olympian Divinities and the Olympian System, while sparkling with scholarship, and dotting with a fondness almost pathetic on the golden vistas and cloud-towers of the most splendid mythology the world has known, are to us, we confess, the least satisfactory of any. The poetry of Homer is thoroughly objective. It is everywhere characterised by a "healthy animalism." He sings

* *Juventus Mundi: the Gods and Men of the Heroic Age.* By the Right Hon. WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE. (London: Macmillan and Co.) 1869.

like a man entirely unconscious that he has either a liver to be guarded, or a soul to be saved. And majestic as is the roll of his verse, there is yet something about it like the twinkle in the eye of an otherwise dignified giant, which always prompts us, at the peril of our utter shame and confusion in the eyes of all men of "culture," to apply to him the vulgar epithet "rollicking." There it is; we have said it, and must face it out. He does rollick. He rolls his thoughts over and over, not with the slightest trace of ostentation, but with the self-unconscious joy of exhaustless power. We do not suppose for a moment that Homer was ever intentionally impious, as Plato would have it. But we do think it is a misplaced refinement to say of him with Mr. Gladstone that "he has a 'vivid conception of intercommunion between the two natures, divine and human, which was 'probably lost in the time of Plato.' He knew neither the divine nor the human as Plato did, and we are at a loss to understand how he could have a 'vivid conception' of intercommunion between them. His elaborate Olympian system seems to us to have had little more to do with that universal religion of which Christianity is at once the simplest and grandest embodiment as had the fairy mythology of the middle ages. It was a brilliant, and, on the whole, happy and beautiful dream, with which the active imagination of early times filled the formless void of mystery. But the eternal life of man showed itself rather in that reverence and awe of something unknown at the heart of existence, which often took the imperfect form of silence before the felt dominion of some fateful power over both gods and men, and sometimes, in revulsion from fantastic superstition, adored as the ultimate majesty, the glorious material world. Paradoxical though it may seem to say it, we think we are far from being peculiar in the experience, that in awakening those feelings of solemn awe and yearning love for infinite beauty which Christianity has taught us to associate with worship, Lucretius, whose only known God was the Universe, is more powerful than Homer with all his crowded Olympus.

As already hinted, we must presume to disagree with Mr. Gladstone in his view of the conception of Apollo and Athena with the primeval tradition of a Logos. So far as we are aware, the tendency of theological inquiry is to show that far from being a primeval tradition gradually dissipated, the idea of the Logos was of very gradual growth, never, in fact, assuming the form which would make it available for Mr. Gladstone's purpose until after the close of the Old Testament canon, and culminating in the schools of the Alexandrian mystics just when it was needed for the expression of Christian truth.

But we are going beyond our tether, and we shall make amends for our presumption by silence, while Mr. Gladstone, with his inimitable grace, sets before our readers, perhaps if we may venture to say so, the best observations he has made on the so-called Olympian religion (p. 181)—

"It found a way to the mind of man through his sympathies and propensities. Homer reflected upon his Olympian ideas, passions and appetites known to us all with such a force that they became with him the paramount power in the construction of the Greek religion. This humanitarian element gradually subdued to itself all that it found in Greece of traditions already recognised, whether primitive or modern; whether Hellenic, Pelagian, or foreign. The governing idea of the character of deity in Homer is a nature essentially human, with the addition of unmeasured power. It is at once obvious, then, that the elements of a profound corruption abound in his Olympian Court, although they affect very variously the personages who fill it. And the principle upon which it is constructed makes but too copious a provision for further deterioration.

"Such accordingly was the actual working of that Hellenic Theo-mythology of which we must regard Homer as the great founder. With the progress of time it became more and more debased, and the distinctions originally perceptible among its elements being worn away, it likewise fell into such a state of complexity as approached to chaos.

"But while the popular creed thus degenerated, the intelligence and the speculative mind of the Greeks became more and more estranged from it. With the lapse of time we must learn to regard it, not as in Homer, under a single aspect, but under three: as a religion of philosophers, a religion of legislators, and a religion of the people. By the philosophers, the abstract idea of deity was greatly purified and reformed; but the sense of personality connected with it became feebler and more remote. In Aristotle, the most profound and powerful mind of Greece in the classical ages, as well as perhaps among the purest which the country produced, it is reduced, as a practical principle, to zero. Still, the lofty sentiments thus elaborated in the abstract, again acquired much of the warmth of life in the writings of some at least of the dramatic poets; and may thus have exercised influence in a wider sphere than that supplied to the few by the thoughtful studies of the schools."

Here we must bring our notice to a close. But we cannot do so without once more calling attention to the exceeding beauty and interest of the brief sketches of character towards the end of the book. Here the illustrious author's irrepressible tendency to see in things what he

brings to them, has perhaps now and then stood him in good stead. If it requires a prophet to interpret prophets, perhaps it may need the hero of a modern age to interpret heroes of old. Take this of Achilles, for instance:—

"The self-government of such a character is indeed very partial. But any degree of self-government is a wonder, when we consider over what volcanic forces it is exercised. It is a constantly recurring effort at rule over a constantly recurring rebellion; and there is a noble contrast between the strain put upon his strength, in order to suppress his own passion, and the masterful ease with which he prostrates all his enemies in the field. The command, always in danger, is never wholly lost. It is commonly re-established by a supreme and desperate struggle; and sometimes, as in the first assembly after the intervention of Athena, we see the tide of passion flowing to a point at which it resembles a horse that has gained its utmost speed, yet remains under the full control of its rider.

Magnitude, grandeur, majesty, form the framework on which Homer has projected the character of Achilles. And these are in their truest forms—those forms which contract to touch the smaller, as they expand to grasp the greater things. The scope of his character is like the sweep of an organ over the whole gamut, from the lowest bass to the highest treble, with all its diversities of tone and force, as well as pitch. From the fury of the first Assembly, he calms down to receive with courtesy the pursuivants who demand Briseis. From the gentle pleasure of the lyre he kindles into the stern excitement of the magnificent debate of the ninth book. From his terrible vengeance against the torn limbs of Hector, he melts into tears at the view and discourse of Priam. The sea, that home of marvels, presents no wider, no grander contrast, nor offers us an image more perfect according to its kind in each of its varying moods. Foils, too, are employed with skill to exalt the hero. The half animated bulk and strength of Ajax (who was also greatly beautiful) exhibit to us the mere clay of Achilles, without the vivifying fire. The beauty of Nireus, wedded to effeminacy, sets off the transcendent, and yet manful and heroic, beauty of Achilles; and the very ornaments of gold, which in Nestor the Carian only suggest Asiatic luxury and relaxation, when they are borne on the person of the great Achaian hero, seem but a new form of tribute to his glorious manhood."

And so we take our leave of a book which would be a boon and an ornament to the age, whatever the source from which it sprang, but which is doubly so when it illustrates afresh the compatibility of refinement, scholarship, and æsthetic enthusiasm, with the grasp of mind, strength of will and high principled-courage which make the truest patriot and the noblest statesman.

BRIEF NOTICES.

A Sketch of the Character of Jesus. A Biblical Essay by Dr. DANIEL SCHENKEL. Translated from the third German Edition. (London: Longmans, Green and Co. 1869.) This essay has been already translated into Dutch, French, Italian, and Swedish, and also into English, in America, by W. H. Furness, D.D., whose work has been made use of in preparing the present translation. Professor Schenkel has often been classed with Renan and Strauss; this must have been somewhat of a disappointment, for we read in the author's preface to the first edition, "I should not even yet, perhaps, have come forward with this work, were it not that the excitement which the 'Life of Jesus,' by E. Renan, has caused, strongly impressed me with the necessity of endeavouring to meet the urgent demand of our time for a truly human, really historical representation of the 'Life of Jesus.'" The Professor has only himself to blame for the mistake. He does not believe in the Divinity of our Lord, nor does he accept the Gospel according to John, and he takes exception to the records in the other gospels of the manifestation of His glory. The "Sketch of the Character of Jesus" is elaborated with the greatest care and skill, but it is not a true portrait of our Saviour. No pains has been spared to preserve a resemblance, but the labour is all in vain. The likeness is lost by the elimination of the Divine. The author and the translator conclude their labours by giving, in their prefaces, the usual assurances of profound esteem. These will be taken for what they are worth.

Clark's Foreign Theological Library. The Prophecies of the Prophet Ezekiel Elucidated. By E. W. HENGSTENBERG, D.D., Professor of Theology, Berlin. Translated by A. O. MURPHY, A.M., and J. G. MURPHY, LL.D. *The Words of the Apostles*, expounded by RUDOLF STIER, D.D. Translated from the Second German Edition, by G. H. VENABLES. (Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1869.) These two volumes form the first issue for the subscribers for the present year. Professor Hengstenberg in his Commentary has produced a volume which may be read, rather than a book for reference. The progress in it is rapid, and the work is designed to give the reader a clear view of the reality of Ezekiel, and in this grand prophetic figure to bring before his mind at the same time the nature of prophecy in general. It is not designed solely for the clergy. The text is so arranged, that it presents no difficulties or hindrances to those who are not acquainted with the original language of Scripture. The translators have omitted the citations from Luther's version, as not necessary for the English reader; and the two parts of the original work are combined with the appendix in one volume. The theologian may not agree with every opinion of the Professor, but he will find this commentary to be one of his freshest and most edifying produc-

tions. The first edition of "Dr. Stier's Exposition of 'The Words of the Apostles,'" appeared two-and-thirty years ago, and this translation is from a second edition which was published in 1861.

The chief features in the *Pulpit Analyst* volume for 1868, are "Misread Passages of Scripture," by the Rev. J. Baldwin Brown, B.A.; and "A New Translation of the Gospel according to Mark," by Professor J. H. Godwin. Many of our readers, with ourselves, are always using Mr. Godwin's former translations, and we hope his health and engagements will allow him to complete his good work, and give us some day a new translation of the whole Testament.

NEW EDITIONS.—In the absence of new books for general reading, it is pleasant to find so many old books with new covers. Old-established favourites wait till Christmas time comes to revive many old associations, but the more modern ones continue to re-appear at shorter intervals. Messrs. Low and Sons' *Copyright Series of American Authors* deserve especial mention at the present time as providing for tourists a variety of light reading in the fullest sense of the words. The books are light as well as the reading, and half-a-dozen can be stowed away in the corner of a portmanteau without any serious displacement of wearing apparel. They are dainty little volumes, beautifully printed and enclosed within glazed paper covers, tastefully designed. Moreover, the purchaser, who has to give only eighteen pence for a volume, has the satisfaction of knowing (and it will be a considerable satisfaction to some) that the author has been consulted on the appearance of his work in this form in England, and has an interest in the success of the speculation. A new volume is added to this series every two months, and those already published are (1) *Haunted Hearts*, by the Author of "The Lamplighter." (2) *The Guardian Angel*, by the Author of "The Autocrat of the Breakfast-table." (3) *The Minister's Wooing*, by MRS. STOWE. (4) *Views Afoot*, by BAYARD TAYLOR, a pleasant gossip little book, by one of the most intelligent of American literary travellers, which we must apologise for not having introduced to our readers before. (5) *Kathrina*, by Dr. HOLLAND, a book of poems, so fresh and original, that we may have to return it in a future notice; and (6) *The Silver Skates*, by M. E. DODGE; a story especially for the boys and girls, of which we spoke more at length when inspired by the recollection of all the incidents of the tale.—Mr. Nimmo has added to his monthly re-issue of Hugh Miller's works, *The Sketch Book of Popular Geology; First Impressions of England and its People; and Scenes and Legends of the North of Scotland*, which though more bulky than Messrs. Low's series, are as admirably suited to the needs of holiday-makers; especially of those who are visiting Scotland. "The Sketch Book of Popular Geology" will open to unsentimental readers quite a new world of suggestive thought in connection with the mountains and morasses, the caves and rocks of the northern districts; while "Scenes and Legends" will invest many a spot with new and romantic interest. It is to be hoped that Mr. Nimmo will meet with that encouragement which his enterprise so well deserves.

EDUCATIONAL WORKS.

Dictionary of Scientific Terms. By P. AUSTIN NUTTALL, LL.D. (Strahan and Co., London. 1869.) Scientific education is becoming, day by day, an object of primary importance, and of indispensable necessity. This dictionary will thus be found to be a book for the times. Dr. Nuttall is well known as the editor of the "Classical and Archaeological Dictionary," "Standard Pronouncing Dictionary," and numerous educational works. He has availed himself of the help of the highest authorities, and has compiled a work which will be a boon, not only to the professional student, but to the general reader. It is clearly printed and strongly bound.

The Agricola and Germania of Tacitus. With a revised text, English Notes and Maps. By A. J. CHURCH, M.A., and W. J. BRODRIBB, M.A. (London and Cambridge: Macmillan.) This is one of Macmillan's School Class Books, and the editors are known through their translations of the "History" of Tacitus, and the "Agricola" and "Germany," published in 1868. They have followed, with some important variations, the text of Orelli, and acknowledge their obligations to the recent German editors, Wex and Kritz.

CLARENDON PRESS SERIES.—*Cicero pro Cluentio.* With Introduction and Notes by W. RAMSAY, M.A. Edited by G. G. RAMSAY, M.A. The present edition is almost an exact reprint of the first.

French Classics. Vol. 2. *Andromaque*, a Tragedy by RACINE. *Le Menteur*, a Comedy by CORNEILLE. Edited, with English Notes, by GUSTAVE MASSON, B.A. Mr. Masson gives in his introduction a glance at the French drama from the earliest epoch to the times of Pierre Corneille; and a *Life of Racine*. As in the case of the other works of this series, the various readings are carefully given, and nothing has been neglected to make these reprints worthy of the collection to which they belong.

German Classics. Vol. 1. *Egmont*, a Tragedy by GOETHE. Edited with English Notes by C. A. BUCHHEIM, Ph.D. This careful commentary on a drama replete with historical allusions is the result of several years' study and labour. It is prefaced with a *Life of*

Goethe, a critical analysis, and a Historical Introduction.

Mensuration for Beginners, with numerous Examples. By I. TODD HUNTER, M.A., F.R.S. (London and Cambridge: Macmillan. 1869.) The subjects included in the present work are those who have usually found a place in Elementary Treatises on Mensuration. The mode of treatment has been determined by the fact that the work is intended for the use of beginners. Accordingly, it is divided into short independent chapters, which are followed by appropriate examples. The examples amount on the whole to nearly 1,200 in number; some of them are taken from printed examination papers, but most of them are original and have been expressly constructed with reference to the most important points, and to the usual difficulties of beginners.

Twenty Lessons in French; with Vocabulary, Notes, and Appendices. By WILLIAM BREENER. (London: Bell and Daldy. 1869.) The author wishes to direct attention to the title of his book, viz., "Twenty Lessons in French," not "French in Twenty Lessons." He has accordingly added a supplement containing numerous examples of important differences between French and English construction. The Vocabulary, which is ingeniously detached from the lessons, is not a dictionary. The significations given are not always the most ordinary ones, but exclusively such as are required for the translation of the examples and exercises of the lessons. The book will be a boon to those teachers who are dissatisfied with the usual waste of time and effort in their French classes.

A Text Book of Geography. For the Use of Schools. By JAMES DOUGLAS, Ph.D. (Edinburgh: Oliver and Boyd.) This class-book contains much sound information. The author has aimed at giving a clear and explicit statement of facts connected with the physical and political geography of each country, and supplying so much general and historical information as to render the study of geography not, as it very frequently is, a mere committing to memory long lists of hard names, but a source whence much valuable and useful knowledge may be gained.

An Elementary Course of Plane Geometry. By RICHARD WARMELL, M.A. (London: Murby.) The best English, American, and continental text books have been consulted in this compilation, and the illustrations have all that excellence which belongs to modern French wood engraving.

The Elements of Latin Syntax; with Short Exercises for the use of Schools. By W. H. HARRIS, B.A. (Hodder and Stoughton.) The compiler of this treatise has used the grammars of Madvig, Zumpt, and Professor Key, and has produced a Latin Syntax in a compendious form. A few sentences have been given as an exercise to each important rule, and a page of miscellaneous examples for translation into Latin, after the chief divisions of the book.

THE MAGAZINES.

Blackwood is not very brilliant this month. "Cornelius O'Dowd" is, of course, in very bad humour as a Tory, and, what is worse, an Irish Tory, with the success of Mr. Gladstone's measure, and he rattles away in his own style about it. He has still one consolation left, but we predict that, like so many that have gone before, it is sure to fail. The bond of adhesion is gone, and Mr. Gladstone cannot keep his majority together. Time will show, and we are content to wait its revelations. A paper on "Cant—a Monologue in the Vapours," is inspired by the same theme. Cant has come in upon us from America, and John Bright is one of its chief apostles. Well, the conquered may well be permitted to indulge in such wails and whinings, as well as in the very silly and inconsistent talk about "the Lords and the Commons," which forms the political article, and the burden of which will at once be understood. We are more pleased with a careful paper on the "London Art Season," and another of the "Historical Sketches" of the Reign of George II., the subject this month being the painter Hogarth.

Fraser supplies us with a complete and fair account of the course of the Irish Church Bill through Parliament, which is valuable as a brief historic review of a great event, and as a criticism of the conduct of the various parties engaged on both sides. Another Irish paper, entitled "Two Irish Tourists," gives another view of the country and its people, from which English readers are sometimes treated, and points out the injustice to which Ireland has continually been subjected on the part of those who have undertaken to describe her characteristics. The papers on "Utilitarianism," and "Credit and Crises," are well done, and will repay careful study. An admirable article, on "Primary Education," which is designed rather to set forth what national education ought to be than to enter into controversy, insists strongly on the necessity for improved text-books as a first requisite. The paper on Shakespeare's vocabulary and style, is mainly a reply to Hallam's criticisms.

The *Contemporary Review* is not up to the high level of last month, but it is, on the whole, a very interesting number, with some subjects which lie out of the beaten track. Mr. Vernon has got a good topic for an article in the "Grand old name of gentleman," and he treats it in a sensible and satisfactory manner. Mr. Gairdner, in discussing the often-agitated question, "Who was

"Perkin Warbeck?" gives a good deal of historical information, but such speculations have little attraction for any but a limited circle. The question is one which must always remain unsettled, and such papers as that before us are valuable mainly for the light they throw on the history of the times. Mr. Richards' paper on "Spectrum Analysis," and a graphic sketch of "Two French Marquises" of the Noailles family—De Montagu and De Lafayette—and Mr. Arbuthnot's account of the Bab and Babeism, are among the noticeable features of the number.

The *Cornhill* has the first of a series of papers on "Toleration," which we shall notice more fully when the writer's views are more fully developed. Prominent in a number of great and varied attractiveness, we notice a paper on the "Present Prevalence of Sun-spots," a translation of a Japanese sermon, most interesting as illustrative of the national character and modes of thought; an amusing article on the "Church and the Chase," and one, by whose suggestions many may profit, on "Vacations."

THE QUARTERLIES.

The *Quarterly Review*, in a short article, which is neither wise, nor generous, nor practical—which, in fact, is little more than a revised edition of the notion that Tory speakers and editors have been setting before the world in an infinite variety of ways for the last eighteen months—professes to tell the "Truth about Ireland." It is another illustration of the *lucus a non lucendo*, but might have been left unnoticed but for the evidence it affords of the determination of the party to depreciate the House of Commons and exalt the authority of the Lords. "Unless both Lords and Commons resist the converging and accumulating influences which the new era is bringing to bear upon them in divergent directions, the former must almost inevitably rise and the latter fall in the highest qualities of a political assembly"—the simple meaning of which is that the Lower House has passed out of the hands of the upholders of class privileges, and the tactics now are, if possible, to undermine its power. In the same direction, though in a more covert way, is the tendency of the article on "Scientific v. Amateur Administration." It points out the administrative evils which have grown out of the excessive jealousy of Government interference, and, to give a still darker colouring to the picture, brings in the old stories about the maladministration of New York, and then argues that inasmuch as the more popular character which the new Reform Bill has given to our constitution has removed all reasonable ground of apprehension, the sphere of Government should be enlarged, and the hands of the executive strengthened. The author writes with force, and has undoubtedly hit some blots; but we are not prepared to catch at a remedy which would introduce other evils of its own. The people have just as much need to watch against the encroachments of bureaucracy as of an aristocracy. Another paper on the "Royal Engineers and Permanent Fortifications" endeavours to show that the construction of our fortifications is being carried out with equal economy and efficiency, and that in both respects the system of defence by forts is preferable to any other. We do not profess to judge the exact weight of the arguments employed, but we feel confident that if the people are willing to be led by such guides, they will learn, when the forts have been constructed, that the ships and large armies for which they are now proposed as an alternative and superior defence, are still as unnecessary as ever. The mode in which writers of this school devise schemes for increasing the public burdens is, to say the least, very ingenious. An able sketch of the "Argument from Design," as looked at in the light of modern science, an extremely interesting review of the fortunes of the "House of Condé," a classical paper on "Lucan," and a well-informed and instructive survey of the "Eastern Christians," make up a group of literary attractions. In the review of Coleridge's "Life of Keble" we find a disposition to find fault with the author, which may possibly be due to the fact that he has so strongly expressed his difference from Mr. Keble on the University question.

The *Edinburgh Review* is devoted almost entirely to literature, the only exception being a paper on the "Marriage Law of the Empire," which, commencing with a brief sketch of the varied changes which have passed over that law, and of the differences still existing in the three kingdoms, proceeds to carefully review the suggestions of the Royal Commission, to which it gives a general but qualified approval. It will be a great point to "sweep away the invidious distinctions and social barriers that now disfigure the Marriage Laws of England and Ireland"; and to "free the contract from the perilous uncertainty arising from the conditions of 'seet on which it now depends,' the last point having reference to Ireland, where 'sectarian principles are embedded in the law,' despite a partial reform effected in 1844. The article does not touch on the most important and mischievous violation of the true principle of liberty in the introduction into the law of a prohibition based on religious grounds, relative to which there is the widest diversity of opinion—marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Of the literary papers, the most interesting is that on "Shakespearean Glossaries," written by one who has acquired a very rare knowledge of Shakespeare's vocabulary, and who criticises with great ability the work of the commen-

tators. Many of his suggestions as to the origin of words which have always puzzled students are most valuable, and throw a new light on various passages. Mr. Freeman has found a discriminating reviewer, who pays the fullest tribute to his vast research and unflinching honesty, but objects to the excessive eulogy into which he runs, both of his heroes and of the people in general. The "Unpublished Works of Guicciardini" supply the topic for an article of extreme interest. The other subjects are "Lecky's History of European Morals," "Victor Jacquemont's Letters," Browning's new poem, Forster's "Life of Landor," and "Mrs. Somerville on Molecular Science." The review of John Ball's Alpine guide furnishes information valuable to Swiss tourists, even though those regions become the haunts of those "joint-stock excursionists," for whom so many superfine writers affect so much contempt, but many of whom enjoy their tours quite as heartily, and can talk of them just as intelligently, as those who have both more time and money at command.

The *Westminster* has not given us a very popular number, but it has some papers of solid excellence. The article on "Indian Railway Reform," contains a great deal of important matter, and treats of a subject which Englishmen need to understand much better than they do, but unfortunately it is all but impossible to excite wide-spread interest in it, or indeed, in any other Indian question. The article deals with the propriety of the Government taking the construction of railways into its own hand, and discusses the arguments in its favour with great ability. The relations of "Labour and Capital" are treated with equal wisdom and candour. The extravagant representations of trade unions by various writers, and especially the absurd pictures drawn by Mr. Disraeli, who appears to have fancied a trades union a kind of Ribbon Lodge, and described it accordingly in "Sybil," receive the castigation they deserve; but the chief excellence of the paper lies in its arguments on co-operation. The article on "Patents, Patentees, and the Public," will be read with special interest, in consequence of the controversy which has risen out of the recent conference on the subject, which, in fact, has altogether assumed a new aspect since Sir Roundell Palmer's celebrated speech in favour of the abolition of patent rights. Of the startling paper on "Prostitution in its Relation to the National Health," we will not trust ourselves to speak. The facts are terrible enough, and ought to be pondered by all who can exert any influence in freeing the people from so fearful a scourge.

The *London Quarterly* maintains a fair level in all its papers, but there is none of them which, either from its subject or the mode of treatment, calls for special comment. The ablest article is that on "Modern Judaism and Christianity," in which the reviewer deals with the objections to the Gospel from two opposite quarters of the Jewish world, the "philosophical" latitudinarian adherent of Moses, who thinks that "Jesus has been misrepresented by Christianity," and that "the doctrine he taught was pure Judaism, and that its union, if it can be recovered, with Mosaism, would be 'a pure and perfect religion,' and the orthodox champion of the old faith, who can see nothing but heresy in the doctrine of 'the Nazarene.'" A few pages on the "Reports of the Registrar-General," point out some of their interesting and suggestive features, and might with great advantage have been extended. We have a comprehensive survey of the "History of the English Bible," some interesting details as to "Methodism in Sweden," and the inevitable article on "Robert Browning."

The *British and Foreign Evangelical Review* has too many articles to allow of its writers doing full justice to themselves or their topics. The best papers are a review of "Davidson's Introduction to the New Testament," an examination of the historic evidence relative to the case of the "Wigton Martyrs," an article on "Presbyterians and the Irish Church," which shows how little just reason the Irish Church had to ask the help of its Presbyterian neighbours in its hour of need. We value the review as giving an able and honest exposition of Presbyterian sentiment on great theological and ecclesiastical questions.

Bradford Election Photograph.—Mr. Bottomley, photographer of Bradford, has, for some months past, advertised in these columns, a photographic sheet which he has produced in commemoration of the recent election. We have been lately favoured with an editor's copy of the photograph, and, in adopting the ordinary method of making an acknowledgment, we are glad to testify to its accuracy and finish. It consists of the portraits of the two members for the borough, and a hundred of their principal supporters. The two central pictures are of a larger size than the surrounding ones, but all are remarkably clear, and, as far as we have had the opportunity of judging, faithful. We miss some few names which we should gladly have seen included amongst the "sitters," but the number was limited, and Mr. Bottomley has, on the whole, made a good choice. There is a healthy aspect about the picture, a fair representation of that energy, intelligence, and determined persistency which characterised the recent struggle. The portraits include those of the late lamented S. C. Kell, Robert Kell, Alfred Illingworth, M.P., Mr. Hastings and his co-petitioners, Mr. Angus Holden, Aldermen Brown and Godwin, Titus Salt, sen. and jun., Mr. Wallwork, Mr. Molloy, and a host of others well known to many of our readers. It is in various sizes, the prices ranging from 1s. to 2s. 2s.

Miscellaneous.

CATTLE DISEASE IN SURREY.—The cattle in some parts of Surrey have been attacked with an epidemic of a contagious character. The disease is said to be of a similar type to that which preceded the outbreak of the rinderpest in June, 1866, and it is spreading rapidly through the county.

REPRESENTATION OF BARNET.—The election consequent upon the resignation of Mr. Hamilton, takes place to-day and to-morrow. Mr. Alfred Seymour appears as the Liberal candidate. Mr. Marsh, the late member for the city, has also come forward, and Mr. Ryder is the representative of Conservatism.

THE NOTTINGHAM ELECTION INQUIRY terminated on Monday. Mr. Seely is declared duly elected, but he does not press for costs, a course of which the judge entirely approved. His lordship, however, severely reprobated the employment of "lumps" on either side. Mr. Seely, in his evidence, stated that there was no organisation of this nature up to the morning of the polling-day on his side, but that in consequence of the violence of Mr. Seymour's friends, he was advised that it would be impossible to go through the contest without such aid.

AN ECCENTRIC BARRISTER.—For some months past the eccentricities of an aged barrister named Brierley have given rise to scenes of violence and disorder both at the Old Bailey and the Middlesex Sessions. On Monday, on Mr. Brierley coming to the latter place, armed with two large stones, the police quietly took these missiles from him. He appealed to the judge, and interrupted the business of the court to such an extent that he was removed, after a prolonged and desperate struggle. It is understood that the unfortunate gentleman is to be sent to a lunatic asylum.

ERRING FOREST.—A deputation waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday, with a view to obtain the assistance of the Government in preserving Epping Forest for the people. The reply of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was not encouraging. While admitting the desirability of the object the deputation had in view, he could not accede to the arguments by which it was pressed upon him. The rights of the Crown over the Forest were feudal rights, which it would be inexpedient to revive or enforce. He promised, however, to consider the subject.

SEALS OF LIEKARD.—In addressing the grand jury at the Tipperary assizes, Mr. Justice George spoke of the great amount of undetected crime in the country, and deplored the prevalence of threatening letters. Even in some cases where the offenders had been traced, there was a reluctance to prosecute. The learned judge, however, expressed an earnest hope that all well-disposed persons would aid the authorities in the administration of justice. Lord Clonbrock received a threatening letter on Friday, requesting him to dismiss his land steward and gardener; if not, he is to prepare for death. This letter has the representation of a coffin and skull and cross bones.

CROSSING THE CHANNEL.—The Board of Trade has received Captain Tyler's report on the mail service between England and France. Captain Tyler points out the necessity for improved harbour accommodation on both sides. This might be accomplished in the most economical manner, at a cost of 100,000*l.* at Dover, and 500,000*l.* at Boulogne, or more completely by the adoption of Mr. Fowler's scheme for new harbours at Dover and Antwerp, at a cost of 2,000,000*l.* It would be necessary in each case to construct a new class of vessels, capable of moving in either direction. Last year 309,479 passengers crossed the Channel between England and France, and there were only ninety days of perfectly calm weather.

VACCINATION.—On Monday evening a meeting convened by the Anti-Vaccination League, was held in the schoolroom of St. John's Church, Whitechapel-road, to take into consideration the evils of vaccination, and to adopt a petition to Parliament for the repeal of the vaccination laws. The Rev. Alexander Seton occupied the chair, and he was supported by a number of medical men. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, begged to say he would not take any side of the question, but would rather hear the testimony of the medical men who were on the platform. Mr. R. B. Gibbs said that vaccination had been a delusion from beginning to end, and it was only by imposition and keeping the people in darkness that this delusion was maintained. He contended at some length that the lymph now used for vaccination was not of a proper kind, and proceeded to point out that it was a most suspicious matter that in Bethnal-green, the best vaccinated district of the metropolis, the cholera was most prevalent. He quoted at great length to show that vaccination did not prevent small pox, and then went on to refer to the death of an infant from erysipelas at that end of London, but which was entered in the Registrar-General's report as "death from erysipelas" without anything about vaccination. He denied what had been said against the members of the League—that they could not produce evidence of one death from vaccination. The reason they could not do this was obvious, the facts were suppressed. Dr. Pearce next addressed the meeting, contending that if vaccination had diminished the deaths from small-pox, it had at the same time been the means of increased mortality from other diseases. He quoted copiously from medical statistics in proof of this assertion. Dr. Reed then moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting being fully convinced that the statement recently put forth by

the police-magistrates, under the direction of the medical profession, that millions of lives had been saved by vaccination, is contradicted by facts, pledges itself to use every effort to obtain the repeal of all Acts of Parliament to enforce vaccination." Mr. Paterson seconded the motion, and it was carried. A petition expressing doubts as to the efficacy of vaccination, and complaining that the legislative bodies of the country should have enforced the practice under pains and penalties, was then adopted. The proceedings terminated in the usual manner.

Cleanings.

Running accounts will run away with a person's credit more rapidly than anything else.

The journey from London to Edinburgh, a distance of nearly 400 miles, has been accomplished on a bicycle by a Mr. Klamroth in six days.

Rev. Dr. Bushnell calls the demand for female suffrage "an attempt to make trumpets out of flutes, and sunflowers out of violets."

The inventor of a new life-saving apparatus wishes to be dropped in mid-channel between England and France and to be left to his own resources.

FALSE HAIR IS GOING OUT IN PARIS. A chignon of thread can be had for fifteenpence. The goats' hair and the silk ones are a little dearer—not very much.

PLENTY TO DO.—Down on the shore of Virginia there is an editor who is also his own compositor and pressman, who makes occasional voyages along the coast to Norfolk as captain of the schooner Polly, who preaches on Sunday, teaches school on week-days, and still finds time to take care of a wife and sixteen children.

THE JONESES.—On Friday a man named Joseph Jones was brought before Mr. T. C. Jones, charged with stealing some clothing belonging to a John Jones. The robbery took place in February last, and, after a preliminary examination, Joseph Jones was remanded to Monday, when Mr. T. C. Jones will be present. We nearly omitted to state that Joseph Jones was apprehended by P. C. Jones.—*Wrexham Advertiser.*

CAUSE OF EARTHQUAKES.—Of late the theory has been advanced that earthquakes are caused by the influence of the sun and moon on the internal waves of the earth. A Mr. Rodoff Fals has lately written in defence of this hypothesis, and, in order to give a clear proof of its correctness, he prophesies that the next earthquakes will occur in equatorial countries on the 7th of August, the 6th of September, and the 4th of October.

CONSIDERABLE DANGER.—A convalescent invalid, Mr. B—, brought a suit lately against his doctor, and alleged that the said Esculapius had persisted in calling on him personally after he was cured, which fees he now refused to pay. Dr. F— denied the fact, and called in a nurse who attended the invalid to prove it. "Is it true," asked the court, "that Dr. F— continued his visits when Mr. B— had no necessity for them?" "Upon my word, sir," answered the witness, "as long as I saw the doctor with Mr. B— I thought he was in considerable danger," which naive opinion caused the court to burst into a fit of laughter.

THE EFFECTS OF GAS ON HEALTH.—Of the many causes which contribute to the establishment of feeble health among indoor workers, the products of illuminating gas must hold the first place. To the use of an excessive quantity of gas—excessive as regards the size of the room, and the capability of removing the products of the combustion of gas—may be attributed, in no small measure, the large number of cases of consumption. To this cause is due, almost entirely, the great number of deaths from consumption among compositors, the delicate health of shopmen and of others who are engaged where much gas is used.—*British Medical Journal.*

RUNAWAY SEALS.—Two seals which recently arrived at the Zoological Gardens at Brussels, escaped a few nights ago from the reservoir in which they were kept, and, after crossing the park, climbed up the wall and dropped into the road which skirts it at a depth of about six feet; they then set out on a nocturnal promenade in the direction of Waver, much to the terror of the persons who met those singular-looking animals on the way. Their absence was at length perceived, and they were overtaken and easily brought back by their keeper. A strong railing was the next day put up round the basin to prevent a repetition of the freak.

A PRIVILEGED TRANSGRESSOR.—A very pretty story is told about the daughter of the King of Sweden, who has just been married to the Crown Prince of Denmark. Her trousseau and wedding presents were laid out in the Palace, but it was strictly forbidden to touch any of the articles. Amongst other visitors who came to see them were two ladies, one of whom, quite young, put out her hand and began to finger the bride's dress. Suddenly she felt herself tapped rather sharply on the shoulder, and the severe voice of a countess in charge demanded if she had not observed the order that nothing was to be touched. "Oh, yes, I observed it," answered the young lady, turning round and smiling. What was the amazement of the countess to discover that this was no other than the Princess herself!

AMERICAN SERVANTS.—Some person in New York, who had trouble with his servants, advertised for a girl. He says—"Wanted, a girl to dwell in my family, assist my wife in doing the work, and give directions generally. Wages not much object, if she

will only leave me enough of my income to pay for the crockery that she breaks. If she should not be satisfied with having five evenings in a week, an effort shall be made to give her eight. She may decide what we shall have to eat, and whether it shall be overdone, underdone, or done at all, and do, in fact, as she pleases, except wear my wife's gloves and shoes (unless her hands and feet are within four sizes of being too small). Feather beds or mattresses as preferred. P.S.—A piano and music supplied free of charge. The use of the parlour for company. No account taken of the tea or sugar that enters or leaves the house."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

ANDREWS.—July 30, at Woburn, Beds, the wife of the Rev. J. Andrews, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BARRY.—LONDON.—July 19, at Bloomsbury Chapel, by the Rev. William Brook, D.D., Michael Maltman Barry, late of Glasgow, to Julia Charlotte, only child of Robert London, Esq., of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. No cards.

DICKINSON.—JULY.—July 21st, at the Wicker Congregational Church, Sheffield, by the Rev. J. Smith, M.A., John William, eldest son of Mr. John Dickinson, Farm Bank, to Helena, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Judd.

DAVIDSON.—WEST.—July 23, at the Independent Chapel, St. Helen's, by the Rev. B. J. Ward, Richard Davidson, of St. Helen's, to Annie Amanda, eldest daughter of the late John Aaron West, Esq., of St. Anne's, Eccleston, near St. Helen's.

DAWSON.—FOWLER.—July 27, at Regent's Park Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Landels, William, eldest son of Mr. James Dawson, of Manchester, to Martha Emma, eldest daughter of W. L. Fowler, Esq., of London.

WEECH.—HAYES.—July 28, at the Independent Chapel, Glastonbury, by the Rev. J. Lambert, of Kingswood, assisted by the Rev. C. Farratt, Mr. William Hill Weech, to Ann, daughter of Mr. Philip Hayes, both of Glastonbury.

CAVEN.—WINTON.—July 23, at the Baptist Chapel, Lewes, by the Rev. C. Williams, of Southampton, assisted by the Rev. W. Miller, the Rev. R. Caven, B.A., of Southampton, to Ellen Winton, daughter of Mr. Martin, of Lewes.

RICHARDSON.—TUNNACLIFFE.—July 29, at the West-End Congregational Chapel, Southport, by the Rev. John Chater, Mr. David Richardson, of Everton, Liverpool, to Miss Mary Hannah Tunnaccliffe, of Southport.

CROWTHER.—PEARSON.—July 29, at Ebenezer Independent Chapel, Dewsbury, by the Rev. H. Start, Mr. William Crowther, of Dewsbury, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Samuel Pearson, Esq., Rotterdam.

JOHNSON.—CHARLESWORTH.—July 29, at the Great Meeting, by the Rev. Charles C. Cox, George Gibson, second son of Henry Johnson, Esq., to Louisa, second daughter of the late William Charlesworth, Esq., New-walk, Leicester.

MILLER.—HENDERSON.—July 29, at 2, Hamilton-park-terrace, Glasgow, by the Rev. W. H. Carlaw, M.A., Helensburgh, assisted by the Rev. Marcus Dods, M.A., the Rev. Donald Miller, M.A., to Glanina, eldest daughter of the late Robert Henderson, Esq., merchant, Glasgow.

SPICER.—SPICER.—July 22, at Union Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Henry Alton, Edward, son of Henry Spicer, Esq., of 22, Highbury-terrace, to Susanna Gage, daughter of William R. Spicer, Esq., of 13, Highbury-place.

DEATHS.

HASLAM.—June 15, at Colchester, the Rev. T. Haslam, of the London Missionary Society.

JOBLING.—July 22, at Rochdale, aged 57, the Rev. Thomas Jobling, Primitive Methodist minister, recently general missionary secretary, London.

IBOTSON.—July 23, at Poyle, Middlesex, Caroline, wife of Percy Ibotson, Esq.

LOTT.—July 25, at Holloway, in the 69th year of his age, Mr. Deputy Lott, an active member of the Court of Common Council, Deputy Alderman of Cordwainers' Ward, and a member of several civic committees.

JAMES.—July 27, at his residence, North Parade, Hornham, the Rev. Evan James, aged 47 years, for fifteen years the faithful pastor of the Independent Chapel of that town.

MARSH.—July 28, at 29, Alkington, City, the Rev. Henry Marsh, of Southampton, sometime Congregational minister at Bungay, Colchester, and Newbury, aged 77.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, July 25.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	234,286,195	Government Debt	411,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	19,286,195
	234,286,195		234,286,195

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	414,553,000	Government Securities	
Reserve	3,990,191	Notes (inc. dead weight annuity)	415,322,374
Public Deposits	4,720,881	Other Securities ..	15,195,568
Other Deposits	19,608,730	Notes	10,738,820
Seven Day and other Bills	469,408	Gold & Silver Coin	1,084,998
	442,292,210		442,292,210

July 29, 1869.

GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—GOOD SPIRITS.—Every one has frequently experienced sudden personal changes from gaiety to gloom. The weather oftentimes receives the blame, when a faulty digestion is alone the cause of the depression. Holloway's Pills can be honestly recommended for regulating a disordered stomach, and improving digestion. They entirely remove the sense of fullness and oppression after eating. They clear the furred tongue, and act as a wholesome stimulant to the liver and as a gentle aperient to the bowels. They healthfully rouse both body and mind. Holloway's Pills are the best known remedies for want of appetite, nausea, flatulency, heartburn, languor, depression, and that apathy so characteristic of chronic derangement of the digestion.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, August 2.

We had a very small supply of English wheat again this morning. Foreign arrivals of wheat and flour are large. The continued fine weather caused an inactive trade, and English wheat realised the prices of Monday last. Foreign wheat was unchanged. Flour was slow at last week's quotations. Beans and peas were scarce, and fully as dear. Barley remained unaltered in value, and met a steady sale. Indian corn was rather lower to sell, imports being large. Oats were in mode-

rate supply, and have advanced in value 6d. to 1s. per qr. since last week. At the ports of call we have fresh arrivals. Cargoes of wheat are steady in value. Maize has given way 6d. per qr. from the prices of Monday last.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red, old	— to —	— to —
Ditto new	47 50	— to —
White, old	— to —	— to —
„ new	50 55	— to —
Foreign red	46 48	— to —
„ white	49 51	— to —
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	31 34	— to —
Oatmeal	40 46	— to —
Distilling	35 37	— to —
Foreign	29 33	— to —
MAIZE—		
Pale	— to —	— to —
Overlaid	— to —	— to —
Brown	30 33	— to —
BEANS—		
Black	37 39	— to —
Harrow	40 43	— to —
Small	— to —	— to —
Egyptian	37 39	— to —

BREAD.—LONDON, Saturday, July 31.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 8d.; household ditto, 8d. to 9d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, August 2.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 10,613 head. At the corresponding period in 1868 we received 11,244; in 1867, 10,317; in 1866, 18,500; and in 1865, 26,810 head. There was a fair supply of foreign beasts and sheep on sale here to-day. The trade was inactive at about previous quotations. The market was moderately supplied with English beasts in good condition. The demand was dull, and the general top figure for the best Scotch, &c., 2d. to 3d. 4d., and in some instances 5d. 6d. per 10 lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, we received about 1,150 short-horns, &c.; from other parts of England, 450 various breeds; and from Ireland, 40 head. With sheep the market was well supplied as regards numbers, and the quality generally was satisfactory. Sales progressed slowly, and there was a tendency to lower rates. In some few instances 5s. 3d. was obtained; but the best Down and half-breds were generally disposed of at 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 10 lbs. Lambs were in moderate request at from 5s. 6d. to 6s. per 10 lbs. The inquiry for calves was restricted at about former terms. For pigs there only a moderate demand, at about the rates of Monday last.

Per 10 lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts.	2 4 to 3 8	Prime Southdown	5 4 to 5 6
Second quality	3 10 4 6	Lambs	5 6 6 0
Prime large oxen	4 8 5 2	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 5 0
Prime Scotch, &c.	5 3 5 4	Prime small	5 2 5 3
Coarse inf. sheep	3 4 4 0	Large hogs	3 10 4 6
Second quality	4 2 5 0	Neatam. porkers	4 8 5 2
Pr. coarse woolled	5 2 5 4		

Buckling calves, 22s. to 25s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s. each.

SMITHFIELD MEAT MARKET, Monday, August 2.

Moderate supplies of meat are on sale. A want of animation has characterised the demand for all qualities, and prices have ruled as under:—

Per 10 lbs. by the carcass.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	. 8	8 to 6	Inf. mutton	. 8	8 to 4
Middling ditto	. 4	2 4 8	Middling ditto	. 4	2 4 4
Prime large do.	. 4	8 4 10	Prime ditto	. 4	6 4 10
Do. small do.	. 4	10 5 0	Veal	. 4	4 4 8
Large pork	. 4	0 4 8	Small pork	. 4	4 5 4
Lamb, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.					

Lamb, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, August 2.—Accounts received during the past week are decidedly less favourable. A great portion of the principal districts continues very foul, with an abundance of short and spindly bines, which is not expected to do much good at this late period of the season, even if there should be a continuance of favourable weather: the result so far promises to be a short crop. Our market continues firm at late quotations. Reports from Bavaria and Bohemia are also worse, the bines in a great many districts showing a disposition to relapse further into blight. Belgium and the French districts are stated to have improved within the last few days. New York advices to the 21st ult. report a quiet market at firm prices, best sorts ranging from 12s. to 15s. per pound. Mid and East Kent, 21. 10s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Weald of Kent, 21. 5s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Sussex, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Farnham, 21. 10s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Country, 21. 10s., 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Bavaria, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Belgians, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Yearlings, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.; Americans, 21. 10s., to 21. 10s.

PROVISIONS, Monday, August 2.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 559 firkins butter, and 4,088 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 16,892 packages butter, 2,630 bales bacon. For the finest descriptions of foreign butter there was a good demand last week, and prices of such advanced 8s. to 10s., best Dutch 10s. to 10s. 6d. At the close of the week there was more doing in Irish, finest Connells sold at 10s. 6d. The bacon market ruled very firm, the supplies of best Waterford being barely equal to the demand, a further advance of 2s. was established. Hamburg also advanced 2s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Aug. 2.—Moderate supplies of potatoes have been on sale. On the whole the demand has been active at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 180 bags 44 tons from Barleux, 19 boxes Cadix, 247 packages Calais, 281 boxes 48 tons Cherbourg, 218 sacks Dieppe, 82 baskets, 194 sacks, 185 barrels, 169 bags Dunkirk, 102 baskets Harlingen, 73 tons St. Malo, 23 bags Rotterdam, 116 bags Rouen, and 60 tons Jersey. English Shaws, 85s. to 95s. per ton; English Regents, 95s. to 110s.; French, 75s. to 90s.

SEED, Monday, Aug. 2.—Little English cloverseed was offered, and prices were somewhat high. Red foreign cloverseed creeps up in value, and fine qualities can be placed steadily. All trifles are held at advanced rates. New trifolium is offering at moderate prices, but will not be wanted until after harvest, for stubble-sowing; some parties ask more money to-day. New English rapeseed was offered of fair quality, but held too high for buyers.

WOOL, Monday, Aug. 2.—There is very little doing in the English wool markets, dealers awaiting the result of the public sales of colonial produce; meanwhile prices remain firm for all qualities.

OIL, Monday, August 2.—Lined oil has been quiet, and rape has been in request at full prices. Olive has sold freely. Other oils have been inactive.

TALLOW, Monday, August 2.—The market is inactive. Y.O. on the spot, 46s. October and December 46s. to 46s. 9d., and December 47s. 9d. to 41s. per cwt. Town Tallow 44s. net ash.

COAL, Monday, August 2.—Market firm at this day's rates. Gosforth, 15s. 6d.; Hettons, 15s. 6d.; Hettons Lyons, 15s. 6d.; Harton, 15s. 6d.; Haswell, 15s. 6d.; Hartlepool (original), 15s. 6d.; Lambtons, 15s. 6d.; Tunstall, 15s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 15s.; Hartleys, 14s. 3d. Ships fresh arrived, 28; ships left from last day, 11—total, 39. Ships at sea, 55.

Advertisements.

PROFESSOR PEPPER'S LECTURE on the GREAT LIGHTNING INDUCTORIUM, as delivered before their Royal Highnesses the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, Daily at 4. Quarter to Three and Half-past Seven. —"ROBIN HOOD" and "ALADDIN," musically treated by GEORGE BUCKLAND, Esq.—The "ASTROMETROSCOPE"—Woodbury's "Photo-Relief Process."—DORE'S Pictures of "Elaine"—Stokes on Memory.—At the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—One Shilling.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL, 27, Queen-square, Bloomsbury. Beds from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 3d.

ORGAN, by AVERY, with Three Rows of Keys. Also several Second-hand ORGANS, of various sizes, at Low Prices, at BISHOP and STARR'S Organ Manufactory, 280, Marylebone-road.

ORGANS.—SIX good Second-hand ORGANS, from 20L to 150L. As the room is wanted, they WILL BE SOLD very cheap.—EDW. WADSWORTH, 98, Albert-square, Manchester.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, Maitland Park, Haverstock-hill. Instituted May 10, 1788, for Children of both sexes, and from any part of the kingdom. Under the Patronage of her Most Gracious MAJESTY the QUEEN and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of WALES.

The 23rd HALF-YEARLY MEETING of Governors was held at the London Tavern, on Thursday, July 29, for the ELECTION of 80 ORPHAN CHILDREN, out of a list of 180 candidates, when at the close of the Ballot, the following were declared to be successful:—

1. Stanfield, Sarah Emily	389	16. Brown, Frederick	415
2. Braine, Annie H.	387	17. Everson, Herbert H.	413
3. Smith, Fanny S.	370	18. Harrow, Fredk. Wm.	412
4. Clements, Eleanor L.	369	19. Fulford, Charles	411
5. Moore, Catherine	368	20. Bowers, Charles Wm.	407
6. Woodcock, Anne E.	366	21. Bear, Alfred	401
7. Malden, Louisa	362	22. Winward, Fredk. C.	399
8. Walsley, Annie M.	355	23. Winsfield, Charles	389
9. Knight, Fanny	319	24. Beawell, Harry	373
10. Pebody, Ann M.	332	25. Wallis, Stephen	368
11. Pearson, George (No. 1)	307	26. Wright, W. B.	365
12. Bolton, George E.	419	27. Eyles, John	355
13. Edwards, Frank N.	444	28. Smith, Robert H.	351
14. Phillips, Theodore A.	434	29. Pedder, Thomas	347
15. Tonkyn, Silas N.	428	30. Killick, Alfred R.	340

After a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, John Kemp Welch, Esq., the Treasurer, and to the Scrutineers for their care in taking the ballot, the proceedings terminated.

Office, 73, Cheapside, E.C.

Contributions are earnestly solicited in order to sustain the above charity in maintaining 400 orphans now under its care. The annual sum required is 10,000L, for more than three-fourths of which it depends upon voluntary contributions.

10L, 10s. and upwards as a donation constitutes a Life Governor; 5L 5s. a Life Subscriber; 1L 1s. and upwards, an Annual Governor; 10s. 6d., a Subscriber. All the accounts are open to the inspection of Governors. Children may now be nominated for the next Election.

LANSDOWNE HOUSE, LONDON-ROAD, LEICESTER.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES.

CONDUCTED BY THE MISSES MIALL.

MASTERS—

French and Italian	Mons. C. C. Caillard.
German	Mlle. Hottinger.
Music and Singing	J. Saville Stone, Esq., Associate, Royal Academy
Drawing and Painting	Mr. J. Hoch.
Dancing and Calisthenics	Mr. C. Smart.
Chemistry	Dr. Albert J. Bernays, Professor of Chemistry at St. Thomas's Hospital, London.

Arithmetic Mr. J. Hepworth.

The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

References to parents of pupils, and others, if required.

MR. J. MASSIE, B.A. (Classical Honours) late Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, has removed from Groombridge House, Haverstock-hill, to "THE SYCAMORES," NORTH-HILL, HIGHGATE, and continues to prepare Pupils for the Public Schools, Universities, Examinations, &c. For Terms, &c., apply as above.

HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, Thame, near Oxford.—This School, from its establishment in 1840, has paid particular attention to those subjects required in Business. The Pupils (more than 2,000 from the above period) have excelled in "Good Writing," Arithmetic, French, Drawing, Book-keeping, Mercantile Correspondence. The best Penmanship and Drawing in the Exhibition of 1851, also the best Specimens of Book-keeping and Business Letters in the Crystal Palace during the Second Exhibition of 1853, were executed by Pupils in this School. Mr. MARSH is assisted by Six Resident Masters and Two Lady Teachers. Five Acres of private Cricket Ground.—Terms 20 Guineas; above Twelve years of age, 27 Guineas. Prospectus, with view of Premises, on application.

IRON CHURCHES for SALE, with accommodation for Three Hundred Persons. Entirely a new principle of construction, being very easily and inexpensively removed. Re-purchased at a remunerative price, reducing the Hire of such Buildings to a moderate amount, and meeting with the requirements so much in request.—S. O. Hemming and Co., 21, Moorgate-street, City.

BLACKPOOL—COLLEGE HOUSE SCHOOL, QUEEN'S SQUARE.—This Establishment, on the West Coast, in one of the healthiest localities in England, combines the advantages of sea air and bathing, with superior intellectual and moral training and the comforts of home.

References:—Rev. Alex. Raleigh, D.D., London; Rev. James Spence, D.D., London; Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., St. Leonard's; John Crowsley, Esq., J.P., Halifax; Henry Lee, Esq., J.P., Manchester.

Prospectuses on application to JAMES CROMPTON, Principal.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.

At this School YOUNG GENTLEMEN are Soundly Taught, Carefully Trained, and Liberally Fed. Mr. VERNY, the Principal of the School, has had much experience in the work of Education. The premises are large and well adapted. A Circular forwarded upon application.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, HENDON, MIDDLESEX.

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